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Dallas area council inflated membership numbers, newspaper says.
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Raising voices and dollars
Kathy Levinson joins CAPE board, crusaders honored at awards dinner.
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Back to Berlin
Gay films a big part of 51st Berlin Film Fest.
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BAY AREA REPORTER

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Serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities since 1971

Berkeley moves on DP benefits

by David Fraser

The city of Berkeley, following the example of San Francisco, Los Angeles, and Seattle, is moving to require most firms that do contract business with the municipality to offer domestic partner benefits.

The City Council on February 20 unanimously approved the provisions of an equal benefits ordinance. A draft is due by April 17, with the ordinance taking effect July 1 after a grace period for educating the business community, according to Deputy City Manager Phil Kamlarz, who okayed the recommendation.

City approval reverses an earlier stalled effort and follows a consultant study under the acting city manager, Weldon Rucker, who moved the issue to the front burner, said Kriss Worthington, an openly gay member of the City Council.

"It's wonderful he's doing this expeditiously," Worthington told the *Bay Area Reporter* in an interview via his cell phone while aboard his bicycle. "We said we'd like to have it ready for Gay Pride Month in June, and he said, 'No problem.'"

The equal benefits ordinance would affect for-profit firms doing \$25,000 or more in annual business with Berkeley. The cutoff minimum for nonprofits is \$100,000.

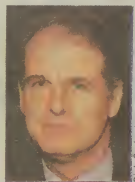
"If they do business with the city of Berkeley, they will have to provide equal benefits, including sick leave, vacation, retirement, et cetera," Kamlarz said. "These will have to be extended to domestic partners, the same as with spouses. Of course, health care is the biggest benefit."

Current contracts will not be affected, but the majority of firms hold annual contracts with the city, so the new rules will apply to "the bulk of them," Kamlarz added.

Both officials indicated that there had been some business opposition to the ordinance, notably from the Berkeley Chamber of Commerce. Kamlarz said that with some persuasion, and despite some reluctance, chamber officials now basically "felt they could live with it."

The rise of domestic partner legislation in recent years led some people to think the cost to business would be "horrible," Kamlarz said, but studies of other cities suggested a light impact.

The deputy city manager estimated
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Kriss Worthington

Carmichael fights for freedom

by Cynthia Laird

Brian Carmichael, inset, argued his motion for a new trial last Friday at the Santa Clara County Hall of Justice in San Jose.



Facing a possible third strike conviction, Brian Patrick Carmichael, the gay HIV-positive prison rights activist who was convicted in January of battery on a peace officer, fought for a new trial last Friday, February 23 as he presented evidence in his defense before a Santa Clara County Superior Court judge.

Following the three-hour hearing in San Jose, Judge Alden E. Danner put off a decision on Carmichael's motion for a new trial and continued the matter to Friday, March 9. The judge also set that date to bring attorney Bruce Nickerson on board as Carmichael's new defense lawyer. Nickerson was in court last week and informally provided counsel to Carmichael, who acted as his own attorney during the hearing.

Carmichael told the judge that during his January trial he was never able to mount an effective defense because he was inadequately represented by the public defender assigned to him, and because the prosecution failed to provide discovery evidence in a timely manner.

The case against Carmichael stems from an incident that occurred at San Jose International Airport last September as Carmichael stepped off an airplane. Police were waiting at the airport to talk to

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John Ashcroft meets with gays

by Bob Roehr

Attorney General John Ashcroft met with a delegation from the predominantly gay Log Cabin Republicans last Thursday, February 22. It was the first meeting that he had with a civil rights organization and one of the first meetings with an outside group since he was sworn in to office three weeks earlier.

"It was an excellent meeting," said Rich Tafel, executive director of Log Cabin. "He couldn't have been more gracious, he was actually pretty humble, he came across really well as a person." The gay delegation included Tafel, Log Cabin's political director Kevin Ivers, board chair and vice chair Bob Stears and Bill Brownson, and Bob Kabel, chairman of the Liberty Education Fund.

"It was mainly a get-to-know you session," said Tafel. "We had an opportunity to lay out key issues that we thought were important and offered to be a resource on those issues." The main issues were hate crimes and employment non-discrimination legislation that will be reintroduced in Congress later this spring.

Tafel conceded that the meeting was light on substance but he argued that "grip and grins [primarily photo opportunities] are extremely important, that is where everything starts. You have to build trust before an issue comes up."

That may be particularly true with regard to Ashcroft, as virtually the entire civil rights and gay communities actively opposed his confirmation. Log Cabin initially expressed its reservations with the Bush administration in private and later issued a statement that noted Ashcroft's pledge in writing and in his

testimony before the Senate Judiciary Committee to equal protection and equal enforcement of the law as written.

Tafel called much of the opposition to Ashcroft "very partisan" and "a miscalculation on the part of the civil rights groups." In light of that track record, he questioned their effectiveness in working with the attorney general. "It leaves them only with a 'throwing stones' kind of strategy now, criticizing everything he does."

Ivers stressed the symbolic importance of the meeting, and said that Ashcroft "sent a message to the country by meeting with a gay and lesbian group that equal protection means everybody."

Tafel added, "It was not too long ago that we [gays] were not considered a civil rights group to be met with to discuss these kinds of things. I think that is progress."

Another sign of progress may be the silence from the social right that followed the meeting. In the past, groups like the Family Research Council issued a blizzard of press releases denouncing meetings between members of the Clinton administration and "homosexual activists." They have even attacked Bush adviser Mary Matalin. But at least with the Ashcroft meeting, the fundamentalists seem to be practicing their own version of don't ask, don't tell.

Ivers said the meeting was "a good education process for the community" as well. He stressed the fact that "the attorney general has a clearly drawn role in government, he is the top law enforcer: He does not make law, he enforces law."

Tafel thinks that it is possible for the largely symbolic hate crimes legislation to pass the
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From left, Bob Kabel, Kevin Ivers, Attorney General John Ashcroft, Rich Tafel, Bob Stears, and Bill Brownson.

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Court tosses judge from Rosenkrantz case

by Ed Walsh

Robert Rosenkrantz, the gay Southern California man convicted of killing his basher in 1985, was dealt a stinging and surprising setback last Friday, February 23, by an appeals court in Los Angeles.

The 2nd District Court of Appeal threw Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Kathryn Ann Stoltz off the case. Stoltz had issued several rulings strongly supporting Rosenkrantz's parole. The appeals court was acting on an appeal from the California Attorney General's office, which had been fighting on behalf of the governor and the parole board to keep Rosenkrantz locked up.

Rosenkrantz now has two options. He can appeal the decision to the California Supreme Court or he can ask that his parole case be assigned to another superior court judge. Rosenkrantz's attorney, Rowan Klein, told the *Bay Area Reporter* this week that he hasn't decided what his next move will be. The appeals court decision came as a surprise to many because the same court previously strongly endorsed Stoltz's rulings on the case. The ruling means that the case will be assigned to another judge, one that the state hopes will concur with its anti-parole hard line.

Stoltz first ordered Rosen-



Robert Rosenkrantz

krantz released two years ago on the grounds that the Board of Prison Terms had unfairly denied him parole and was biased against him. But the state has fought Stoltz tooth and nail since then to keep him behind bars.

Governor Gray Davis once vowed to block the parole of all convicted killers. He has only allowed one convicted murderer to be released since he took office. That was three months ago when he okayed the parole for a woman

convicted of second-degree murder for killing her abusive boyfriend in 1985.

Rosenkrantz, now 33, shot former classmate Steve Redman to death in Los Angeles County just days after Rosenkrantz turned 18.

The shooting ended a chain of events that began a week earlier when Redman, along with Rosenkrantz's younger brother, stormed a high school graduation hosted by Rosenkrantz, yelling "faggots." Redman broke Rosenkrantz's nose with a flashlight and later outed him to his father.

Rosenkrantz testified he had been living out of his car for a week and was despondent when he approached Redman in the parking lot of Redman's Calabasas condominium complex and demanded he retract his outing. The two argued and Rosenkrantz opened fire, shooting Redman 10 times.

He eventually turned himself in, was convicted of second-degree murder, and was sentenced to 17-years-to-life. He's been a model prisoner and has been eligible for parole since 1996.

His parole has been strongly supported by the homicide detective who arrested him and investigated the case, the judge who presided over his trial, and Redman's grandmother. Rosenkrantz expressed deep remorse for the killing. ▼

His hopes for release dashed twice, Rosenkrantz down but not out

by Ed Walsh

In an interview last month, Robert Rosenkrantz told the *Bay Area Reporter* that he is more depressed than he's ever been.

Since his sentencing in 1986, Rosenkrantz has been confined to the California Men's Colony prison in San Luis Obispo, where the interview was conducted. He works full-time there developing software for the Department of Corrections.

Rosenkrantz told the *B.A.R.* that he was shaken by two "almost releases" last fall. Twice he was told he was being freed. Each time he was ordered to pack up his belongings only to be told at the last minute that his parole was canceled, the first time by a court-ordered stay, the second by a veto from Governor Gray Davis.

Rosenkrantz gets few visitors and few letters. Although he's received several offers from producers over the years to cooperate on movie projects, he's turned them all down. He told the *B.A.R.* that his biggest concern was that if a movie were produced, it stick with the facts of his case.

Compounding Rosenkrantz's state of mind now is a relationship he developed five years ago. He met, became close friends, and later fell in love with fellow prisoner Tommy Correll. Correll, 37, was released last September.

Rosenkrantz said falling in love for the first time was the best, and now with the separation from Correll, the worst thing that has happened to him.

Rosenkrantz first recounted the story of his relationship to this writer last summer but asked that it be kept off the record. He feared reprisals from prison officials while he and Correll were still in custody together.

One thing he's not ready to go on the record about now is whether he was ever able to consummate his relationship. Sex between inmates, consensual or otherwise, is illegal. The parole board has been desperately searching for any reasons to continue to keep him locked up.

Rosenkrantz noted his relationship with Correll

won't come as a shock to anyone there.

"Everybody knew we were a couple here," he said. "It was obvious, he was latched onto me like a barnacle, everywhere I went."

Correll first arrived there in 1996. He was sentenced to prison on auto theft and drug charges. Correll said he got into trouble when he was high and suffering from severe paranoia. He tried in vain to get help. Out of desperation, he stole a van and drove himself to a psychiatric hospital. Despite the mitigating circumstances, he got the book thrown at him because of a previous conviction for selling marijuana.

In an interview with the *B.A.R.*, Correll said that he has had difficulty finding work and greatly misses Rosenkrantz. He knows from his desperate letters and phone calls that Rosenkrantz feels the same.

"He's worse than I've ever seen him," said Correll.

Correll and Rosenkrantz were friends for nearly three years before their friendship evolved into love. They were joined in a holy union ceremony in 1998. The ceremony was conducted during an outreach program to the prison by the Metropolitan Community Church, according to Correll and Rosenkrantz. Former MCC-SF pastor Jim Mitulski recalled meeting Rosenkrantz in 1999 but he's not sure if he blessed Correll and Rosenkrantz's relationship during that meeting. Mitulski said if a ceremony took place in 1998, it was likely officiated by another MCC minister.

Correll said when he first met Rosenkrantz he mistakenly believed the prison gossip that he was in prison for killing his lover. The turning point in their relationship came after Rosenkrantz let Correll read some paperwork he had documenting the details of his case.

"When I read his case I cried," Correll told the *B.A.R.*

Correll believes Rosenkrantz has fully paid his debt to society and now deserves to be set free.

"There's no need for more punishment to be done," he said. ▼

COMMUNITY NEWS

What anonymous means

HIV activists protest new testing form

by Katie Szymanski

If a computer system obtained the first and last letter of your name, your sex, date of birth, and ZIP code, would this be enough information to identify you? Most likely yes, says a concerned group of activists that is worried about a new form issued through the California Department of Health's Office of AIDS.

Workers at the Berkeley Free Clinic took an official stand this week against the new "risk assessment form" that has been in effect since January and is used to collect risk factor and identifying information from people getting tested for HIV, some of whom should probably think twice about documenting things like drug use or unprotected sex while simultaneously revealing clues that reveal who they are.

What is most alarming about this new request for information is that the data is collected at anonymous testing sites throughout California. Unlike confidential sites, which take names in confidence but can link a positive result to follow-up care, anonymous testing was supposed to be the one place to go free from any type of identifying information. It was also supposed to be preserved at all costs no matter what happened with HIV reporting, the much-debated method of tracking new HIV cases through names or unique codes collected at confidential sites. Now it looks as though the anonymous outlet that has always made HIV reporting acceptable has a potential for misuse worse than any imagined nightmare at a names-based site.

The great debate

Aside from self-administered blood analysis like store-bought home kits, most HIV testing in California has occurred in two different ways. Confidential testing, as noted, collects identifying information but keeps that information between the health facility and the patient. Anonymous testing has traditionally issued a code number to both the blood collected and the person returning for results; if demographics (like race or age) were collected there were no corresponding identifiers (like birth dates or letters of the name) that could be leaked or mishandled. In fact, Berkeley Free Clinic board Chair Beth Podzin says state law prohibits such practices, and she points to a passage from the state health department's *A Brief Guide to California's HIV/AIDS Laws*, which reads, "In anonymous HIV testing, the identity of the test subject is not linked to the test result. In accordance with Health and Safety Code Sections 120885-120895, anonymous testing... is free and does not collect any identifying information from test subjects."

When HIV reporting became a national issue a few years ago, the argument was made by state health officials that understanding the epidemiology of AIDS was becoming more difficult as the illness became more manageable. Since HIV is only reported to the state when a person develops full-blown AIDS, there is no way to arrive at a firm estimate of HIV seroprevalence, and without this more accurate number, regions hardest hit by the virus will not be targeted for funding and resources. HIV reporting, therefore,

requires that HIV cases are reported as soon as people at confidential testing sites test positive.

But because many people get tested multiple times, there must be a way to account for all the positive tests without duplicating any of them. The easiest way to do this is by using the person's name, already a part of the record at a confidential testing site. This is also the scariest way to track HIV, as we are not even 20 years past the days of quarantine scares, and still live in a climate of fear and HIV

anonymous testing which at this point cannot be altered," said the worker, who did not want his name used. "This is a very rich research area for the state. People at high risk and low risk are giving information where they believe what they're saying is private. The state is trading trust for quick gains in research that eventually will backfire."

The concerns at the free clinic are not with the state breaking trust so much as with privacy leaked at other levels. For one thing, according to Podzin, the information col-

Tampering with anonymous sites, said activists and lawmakers alike, would deter many in high-risk communities from getting tested at all.

criminalization. AIDS activists have therefore argued for unique identifiers instead of names when HIV reporting is inevitably implemented in California.

Unique identifier legislation, as authored by Assemblywoman Carole Migden (D-San Francisco) and passed by state lawmakers (and later vetoed by Governor Gray Davis) would have created a code specific to each individual at confidential testing sites using pieces of his or her birth date and other information. No matter what method of HIV reporting was used, however, it was understood that anonymous testing would remain unaffected so that people who were seeking medical care or coverage could go through confidential sites, while people who just wanted to know their status could do so without identifying themselves. Tampering with anonymous sites, said activists and lawmakers alike, would deter many in high-risk communities from getting tested at all.

The one safe place

It is exactly this way of thinking that has made anonymous testing a place for people to open up and trust their counselors more so than if they tested elsewhere, according to another worker at Berkeley Free Clinic.

"When the state says people don't have to give this information when they're asked to, that's a lie, because there's a trust level under

lected could very easily be plugged into another data base not linked to health concerns at all.

"The laws are always changing, and the health department can't predict what will happen," said Podzin, who fears in a worst case scenario that law enforcement could collect behavioral information from a person under criminal investigation and cross-reference test data with a suspect's known demographics.

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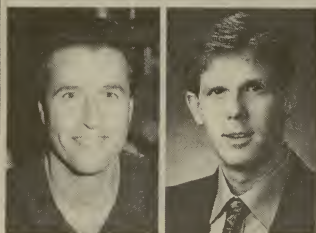
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Getting out the vote



Rick Gerbner

Empress candidates Tiger Lily, left, and Chablis exchange pins while campaigning at Castro and 18th Saturday, February 24. Each candidate walked the streets with their color coordinated entourages, rousing the locals to vote for the 35th Imperial Empress and Emperor of San Francisco. Emperor candidates are Tom Basch and Ms. Gail Wood. The coronation of the winners takes place this Saturday, March 3 at the Gift Center, starting at 6 p.m. For more information, call (415) 621-3550 and ask for David or Sheba.

Whipple's partner pushes for DP rights

Dog in mauling case ordered destroyed

by Ed Walsh

As the investigation into the mauling death of Diane Whipple continues, her partner, Sharon Smith, has been propelled virtually overnight into a role as the poster partner for domestic partner rights.

Smith has continued to speak out in the local and national media on the need for a change in laws. She's scheduled to be interviewed by NBC's *Dateline* program this week. Last Sunday, she appeared in a story on CBS' *Evening News* highlighting the need for domestic partner rights in civil court actions. Smith also plans to testify later this month in support of AB25, which would grant domestic partners comparable rights with married couples in civil cases.

As the *Bay Area Reporter* reported last week, Smith recently found a will that Whipple wrote leaving her most of her assets. Although the will makes Smith a legal heir, Smith's attorney, Michael Cardoza, said he still plans to continue with plans to file a wrongful

death lawsuit. If Smith is successful, it would be the first time a domestic partner has been able to collect on a wrongful death case.

Smith held a press conference last week in San Francisco after it was announced that the female dog involved in the January 26 attack, Hera, was ordered euthanized. The dogs' owners, Marjorie Knoller and Robert Noel, were also banned from owning dogs for three years.

"I just lost my soul mate, my best friend," Smith told reporters. "And so far all I've heard is that they are not going to be allowed to have dogs for three years. I don't think I need to say anything else."

The decision by San Francisco Police Sergeant Bill Herndon to destroy Hera, was mooted by an earlier order by the San Francisco District Attorney's office to keep Hera alive as evidence in their investigation.

San Francisco District Attorney office spokesman Fred Gardner told the B.A.R. this week that charges could be weeks away. Gardner declined extensive comment citing a gag order and concern over

remarks by Noel and Knoller in the media that they may seek a change of venue because of prejudicial media coverage of the case.

Meanwhile, Noel and Knoller's adopted convict son, Paul Schneider, is speaking out to reporters. In interviews from Pelican Bay Prison with the *San Francisco Chronicle* and KRON-TV, Schneider apologized for the attack. Schneider also admitted that he had nude pictures of Knoller in his cell but declined to comment on the nature of their relationship. Schneider also denied allegations that he was in the business of breeding dogs to attack people.

San Francisco Police Lieutenant Henry Hunter told the B.A.R. that the progress of the police investigation hinges on how much of the evidence seized from Schneider's prison cell can be turned over to police and prosecutors. A hearing scheduled for Thursday, March 1 before Superior Court Judge Lenard Louie will take up that issue.

Diane Whipple's mother, Penny Whipple-Kelly, and Smith want the case to be prosecuted as second-degree murder but Hunter said at this point, it appears there is only enough evidence to support an involuntary manslaughter charge. Hunter said that could change depending on what the evidence from Pelican Bay shows.

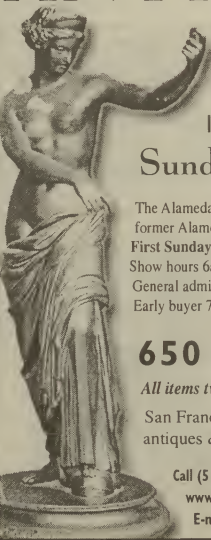
Meanwhile, friends and family of Whipple gathered for a memorial service last Sunday, February 25, in her hometown on Long Island, New York. The private service was attended by Smith, and by many of Whipple's friends from the East Coast who couldn't make it to the Bay Area memorial service.

Whipple's relatives said they hope the media attention on the case will help raise money for the foundation that has been set up in her name. Whipple-Kelly told the B.A.R. that she hopes to use the money raised to support school sports and other programs that were important to her daughter. She also hopes some foundation money could be used to push for more effective dog laws to prevent another tragedy. ▽

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Berkeley sit-in Monday

by John Iversen

Members of the Bay Area queer community will participate in civil disobedience as part of global actions in solidarity with South African PWAs this Monday, March 5.

That is the day that oral arguments begin in Pretoria High Court regarding a lawsuit (known as the PhaRMA case) by 42 pharmaceutical companies against Nelson Mandela and the government of South Africa. The drug companies seek to overturn Mandela's 1997 Medicines Control Act which would have allowed South Africa to produce its own generic AIDS drugs or import them at the lowest world price. The suit was filed in early 1998 after South Africa said it would produce taxol to treat breast cancer. Since that time over 400,000 South Africans have died of AIDS-related illnesses.

The Bay Area March 5 action will be held at Berkeley's Bayer plant. Bayer is the only plaintiff with a physical presence in the area. The rally is expected to draw hundreds and 20 will sit-in demanding that Bayer withdraw from the PhaRMA lawsuit.

Bayer is not new to AIDS controversy. "They sold known infected blood plasma to hemophiliacs in the early 1980s. After being stopped from selling the tainted product in the U.S., they shipped it abroad. A suit brought by the Committee of 10,000 hemophiliacs resulted in Bayer paying each HIV-infected person a relatively small settlement of \$100,000," said ACT UP/East Bay's Jonathan Winters, who will be one of those sitting in front on Bayer's front gates.

Two weeks ago the South

African government began distributing nevirapine and powdered milk to pregnant women to prevent neonatal transmission. They are ready to begin a massive AIDS treatment campaign with help from Brazil and India.

"The PhaRMA lawsuit against my country, which will continue to stop us from obtaining low-cost generic treatments, is a crime against humanity," stated gay South African Bongane Nyathi, who will speak at the rally. Of the 4.3 million South Africans infected with AIDS, only 0.2 percent can afford Western brand name triple therapy. Two weeks ago, the Indian drug company, Cipla, offered to sell a triple therapy regimen for \$350 annually per person. Western companies want \$11,000 for the same triple therapy treatment.

Nyathi stated that just because the case is being heard in South Africa does not guarantee a positive outcome. "The composition of the South African Supreme Court is much the same as in apartheid days, and they have a tendency to favor the requests of big business."

Berkeley City Council member Kris Worthington will join other city leaders at the sit-in. "Berkeley led the fight for sanctions against South African apartheid. It's appropriate that we join this fight against 'medical apartheid' to save millions of lives. Bayer and the city of Berkeley's development agreement is a model of public-private partnership of corporate responsibility. It is also Bayer's corporate responsibility to drop out of the PhaRMA lawsuit."

Winters said, "Bayer's HIV history is indicative of the drug industry at large. They talk of charitable donations and do little or nothing. They price gouge the

West and dump tainted or outdated product in the Third World. AZT is declining in Western use and popularity and Africa provides a new market of 26 million."

Presently only 8 percent of the 36 million HIV-infected in the world receive triple therapy.

The case is beginning to receive worldwide attention and March 5 actions will take place in South Africa, Berkeley, Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, Brazil, Chile, Australia, Germany, France, and Italy.

The PhaRMA lawsuit may well decide how the planet responds to the epidemic. And one may ask whether AIDS or pharmaceutical companies are more destructive. "The South Africa case is one of the most single destructive events in our fight to bring drugs to people," said Dr. Christopher Ouma, coordinator for Kenya's Action Aid. "It would be a show of good faith on behalf of these companies if they could unilaterally withdraw from this legal action."

The rally and sit-in have been endorsed by San Francisco Supervisors Tom Ammann and Matt Gonzalez, seven past and present members of the Berkeley City Council, Global Exchange, the California Nurses Association, the Gray Panthers, the Center for Third World Organizing, the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission, and Lesbian and Gay Insurrection. A middle school teacher called organizers to say he's bringing his class. ▼

The rally takes place at noon at the Bayer plant, 7th and Parker streets, in Berkeley. Contact Survive AIDS at (415) 252-9200 or www.tac.org.za.

Bush agrees to retain drug patent policy

by Liz Highleyman

Last week the Bush administration announced that it would retain a policy that helps make affordable anti-HIV medications available to poor countries in sub-Saharan Africa.

On February 20, the U.S. Trade Representative's office said that President George W. Bush would uphold an executive order put in place last year by former President Bill Clinton. The order allows poor countries to locally manufacture or import cheaper generic versions of patented drugs. According to Assistant U.S. Trade Representative Joseph Papovich, "Consistent with our overall effort to protect America's investment in intellectual property," the administration would "work with countries that develop serious programs to prevent and treat this horrible disease," and that the administration is "not considering a change in the

present flexible policy."

Clinton's executive order came after he and former Vice President Al Gore were pressured by AIDS activists not to enforce U.S. intellectual property laws that forbid manufacturing or importing generic drugs. ACT UP/Philadelphia and other members of the Health Gap Coalition hounded Gore during his presidential campaign and held a demonstration in Washington, D.C. on World AIDS Day in December 1999. Concurrently, Medecins Sans Frontieres/Doctors Without Borders and other advocates brought the issue of drug accessibility to the protests against the World Trade Organization taking place at the same time in Seattle. The WTO's Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights includes provisions that allow for compulsory licensing and parallel importing of patented drugs in cases of national emergency; U.S. rules are considerably more stringent. Addressing a

gathering of global trade officials in Seattle, Clinton said, "Where the HIV and AIDS epidemics are involved ... the U.S. will henceforth implement its healthcare and trade policies in a manner that ensures people in the poorest countries won't have to go without medicine they so desperately need." He followed this statement with an executive order last May.

On January 25, the national advocacy group AIDS Action sent a letter to Bush asking him not to reverse Clinton's policy. According to AIDS Action Executive Director Claudia French, "President Bush

page 10 ►

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OPEN FORUM

A new trial for Carmichael

Prison activist Brian Patrick Carmichael has had his share of run-ins with the law, and over the years he's served time in various California prisons. During his incarceration several years ago, Carmichael fought for improved treatment rights for HIV-positive prisoners at the California Medical Facility at Vacaville, a move that proved unpopular with the state Department of Corrections, which transferred him to a higher security prison. He was discharged from parole in April 1999.

His present situation occurred last September when he was transporting his ill brother to San Jose. After boarding the airplane in Dallas, Carmichael was involved in an argument with another passenger who refused to move from a seat reserved for Carmichael's brother. The police were waiting at the gate when the plane touched down in San Jose. Carmichael was arrested at the airport following a scuffle with police, during which time he fell down. One of the officers maintains he suffered an injury as a result; Carmichael says that if the officer was injured, it happened when he tried to lift a wheelchair Carmichael was in.

Unfortunately, Carmichael never had a chance to present his defense, due, we believe, to inadequate representation by the Santa Clara County Public Defender's office. As a result, following his trial in January, a judge found Carmichael guilty of battery on a peace officer. Because of his prior record, Carmichael could be sentenced under the state's three strikes law. Last week, in a San Jose courtroom, Carmichael argued for a new trial.

During the three-hour hearing, Carmichael told the judge about evidence that was never presented by his lawyer. Carmichael told the court that he had been prepared to have numerous witnesses testify in his defense; they were never called by his lawyer. In fact, the lawyer originally assigned to represent Carmichael was reassigned less than three weeks before the start of his trial. During arguments last week, Carmichael told the judge that when Ed Nino, the lawyer assigned to his case in De-

cember, put him on the stand, he didn't ask him any questions; instead, Nino had Carmichael remove his jacket and shirt and then rested his case. Nino didn't cross-examine the police officers involved, Carmichael said, nor did he introduce exculpatory evidence that may have led the judge to dismiss the felony battery charge, or reduce it to a misdemeanor, which would not fall under the three strikes sentencing law.

Most disturbing to us is the way Carmichael said the officers conducted themselves at Valley Medical Center after over-hearing him tell a physician about his HIV status. Carmichael told the judge last week that none of the officers had any complaints about how Carmichael was behaving until they overheard that conversation. Suddenly, the officer who supposed-

ly suffered a broken arm (that diagnosis was later changed to a sprain) was rushed over to the hospital, the mood was transformed, and Carmichael faced felony charges.

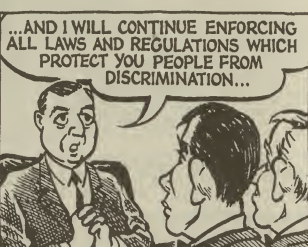
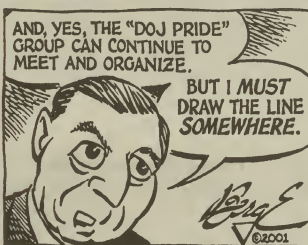
The deputy district attorney handling the case, David Soares, told us this week that Carmichael's case is in no way about AIDS or AIDS-phobia. And Soares told us that the officer was "clearly injured." What isn't as clear is how that injury occurred.

Carmichael also took issue with some prosecution evidence that was turned over late or not at all; in particular there were five hours of missing police radio tapes he never received.

Judge Alden E. Danner has not yet ruled on Carmichael's motion for a new trial, that is set for March 9. We urge Judge Danner to grant that motion. ▼



Editorial



Taking our case to the people

by Elizabeth Birch

As we begin a new political reality with George W. Bush as our nation's 43rd president and Republicans in charge of Congress and the White House for the first time in four decades, supporters of gay equality have expressed apprehension about what this political moment portends for gay issues. While the question remains largely unanswered, we can gain some comfort in noting that we are also living in a reality of growing public distaste for anti-gay behavior, whether by self-righteous radio hosts or misguided office seekers.

In the marketplace of ideas, anti-gay positions are finding fewer and fewer takers – a point not lost on our new president.

President Bush has largely tried to side-step gay issues throughout his public career. When he has been pinned down on issues, he mostly tries to balance his positions by trying not to appear intolerant, yet not alienating his socially conservative base. He has commendably stated he will not discriminate based on sexual orientation. However, his statements have consistently been tempered with implications that homosexuality is a private matter underscoring the inequity contrasted by heterosexuality being an obvious public matter. Despite his strategy of avoidance, President Bush has taken a few positions as governor and during his campaign that are not gay-supportive, most notably his support in the spring of 1999 for a law that would ban gay people from adopting children.

The public has come a long way over the course of the last eight years toward support of gay issues. When asked in 1992 by the Gallup organization whether gays should have equal job opportunities, 71 percent of those polled said "yes." By 1999, 83 percent

said "yes." When asked by Gallup whether homosexuality should be an acceptable lifestyle, in 1992, 38 percent said "yes." By 1999, 52 percent had said "yes." In 1995, a poll conducted by Lake Snell Perry showed independents – a key Bush constituency – when asked whether they thought gay rights were equal rights or special rights, 41 percent said "equal." By 1998, that number jumped to 55 percent.

This data underscores an increasingly supportive electorate that will provide a firm foundation on which we can build relationships with the new administration. The lessons we have learned since 1994, when Republicans took over the Senate and the House

of Representatives, is that public opinion has provided us with vital leverage. Working with allies inside and outside of Congress we have been able to stop every anti-gay legislative attack – and there were many – except one, the Defense of Marriage Act. During this period, the Employment Non-Discrimination Act came within one of vote of passing the Senate and though it has yet to become law, the Hate Crimes Prevention Act passed the Senate by a wide margin and the House passed a non-binding resolution supporting the measure.

Our progress does not rest with any one individual, political party or component of government. It comes from making our case to the American people, who at the end of day, will be the final arbiters of judgment regarding our nation's leaders.

When President Bush nominated former Missouri Senator John Ashcroft to be attorney general, the conventional wisdom among most gay advocates was that the president would have had a tough time picking someone anti-gay. The fact that the

attorney general can have a direct, dramatic impact on the lives of gay people only exacerbated the apprehension surrounding the nomination. What transpired during the confirmation process was unexpected. Ashcroft felt the political need to state unequivocally under oath that he would not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation, a position he never took (or had to take) until coming before the full body of public opinion represented by the entire Senate. Of course, we will judge him by his actions, not his words.

After eight years of the Clinton administration, our community, its organizations, and leaders are looking at what lies ahead in this new, more ambiguous environment. Not all will come to the same conclusions and not all will be driven by the same priorities, but most are motivated by the goal of equality for lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and transgendered Americans. At the Human Rights Campaign, we campaigned vigorously for Al Gore for president. We thought he represented the best hope for our community and would offer the best environment to move our issues forward.

That did not come to pass. The campaign is over. It is time to govern. The new president has completed his transition from campaign to governing. So too, does HRC move from campaigning to making sure the new administration governs fairly and inclusively. We will accomplish this by using political acumen, relationships with Congress, the moral imperative, and the growing support of public opinion. ▼

Elizabeth Birch is the executive director of the Human Rights Campaign.



Guest Opinion

LETTERS

Queer for you

By now many of you have seen the banner draping from the construction site of the future home of the San Francisco Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Community Center. For those of you who have missed it – or not heard about it – it quite simply says "The Center: The Queerest Place in America." It is the first of several banners that will fly from the rooftops in the coming months that will, hopefully, announce our presence to the city at large and help people realize that the center will be more than just a building. It will be a home to all of the members of the community.

We hope you will find the banners amusing, informative, and, at times, thought provoking. We've begun by using the word "queer" very deliberately. We know that it provokes very strong responses in some people. For the Stonewall generation, it's a reminder of a not-so-distant past when the word was used to hurt, to marginalize, to persecute. For younger generations it is a word of empowerment that allows them to take control of the hatred and discrimination that has been directed at all of us for far too long. What we can all agree on is that it is not for the courage of older generations, none of us would know the joy of witnessing the empowered "queer kids" of today.

In the spirit of the facilitating role that the center will play in our community, we invite all of you to share your views about the word "queer" and what it means to you. Send your thoughts and comments to 1748 Market Street, #204, San Francisco, CA 94102 or e-mail sfgaycent@aol.com. We'll post your responses on our Web site (www.sfcenter.org) within two weeks.

Mike Marshall, Interim Executive Director
LGBT Community Center Project

New board has no mandate

Supervisor Chris Daly has reintroduced legislation that limits TIC ownership nearly identical to that of Proposition N which was soundly defeated on last November's ballot. Against the will of the voters, Supervisor Daly has the arrogance to place the entire Board of Supervisors in the awkward position of dealing with it again. The voters have said that holding title as tenants in common should not be limited, or made extinct in San Francisco.

Many of the freshman members of the Board of Supervisors seem to be of the impression that they have a mandate to carry out their progressive agendas. In fact, they have no such mandate. The election was clearly a message to the mayor that San Franciscans want an end to special interest politics within City Hall. The result was creation of an anti-Brown Board of Supervisors. Reintroduction of this TIC legislation – after the voters rejected it – smacks of special interest politics. Are we blind or stupid enough not to see that this is clearly Supervisor Daly's pay back to the Tenants Union for his seat on the board? I don't think anyone who voted intended to trade in one extreme agenda for its polar opposite. I know I didn't.

This latest attack on TIC ownership is, just as Proposition N, unfair, discriminatory toward gay and lesbian couples, and unable to bring about additional desperately needed rental housing. These arguments have withstood the scrutiny of the electorate and won.

It's time to find creative and resourceful ways to create new housing in San Francisco instead of implementing garbage legislation such as this. I expect much more from this Board of Supervisors than this kind of blatant disregard for the majority of the voters in San Francisco, as should we all.

Good people of reason should be able to see that any special interest legislation is what the last election mandated against. It's disgusting that we have to deal with it at all, especially from those who promised us they would make a difference. Was it lip service to win our votes?

Gary R. Goad
San Francisco

Castro parking changes

Do you think parking is a problem now? If the Merchants of Upper Market and Castro get their way, parking will be cut in half in the Castro and Upper Market area.

A request to change the meters to two-hours, from one-hour, will cut the number of parking opportunities by 50 percent. A hearing is set for Friday, March 2, at 10 a.m. in room 416 in City Hall.

This is neither a good business decision nor is it neighborhood friendly. Finding parking for whatever reason, business or residential, is already nearly nonexistent. Let's not make it more perplexing than it already is.

Frank Nelson
San Francisco

Democratic Party in shambles

The Democratic Party has been left in shambles by the past administration, during which we lost both houses and the presidency. To regain some semblance of respectability, all in Washington who countenanced the Clinton administration must be purged. Only then can our traditional message be put forward untarnished by the arrogance of power and the corruption of the past administration.

James Keefer
San Francisco

Thanks from Milk Club

Thank you for your editorial calling attention to the transphobia exhibited in recent mainstream newspaper coverage of issues affecting the transgender community ["Picking on transgenders," February 15]. The Milk Club is gratified that your editorial on the subject appears to have had an effect. The *Chronicle* published the letter from Milk, Alice, and LGADDA concerning their cavalier coverage of transgender issues soon after your editorial appeared.

Milk Club members also are gratified that the new chair of the Alice Club, Paul Hogan, has been willing to work together on this issue with the Milk Club. It also is heartening that after many years, Alice took the step of recognizing bisexual and transgender members of our community by including them in the name of their club. This will allow Alice to begin to earn the work the Milk Club began several years ago of addressing the

needs of the transgender community, as well as confronting the prejudices within our own community around transgender issues. It's good to know we will be fighting the same fight.

Immediately, we must unite in supporting the decision by the city to provide full and equal health coverage for its transgender employees. We fought together for equal benefits for gay and lesbian employees and we must now present the same united front for equal benefits for transgender employees.

We look forward to working together on this issue, and hopefully on other issues of common interest to our community.

Jerry Threet, President
Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club

Thanks from Alice Club

The Alice B. Toklas Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Democratic Club sincerely thanks you for your appropriate criticism of the transphobia that the mainstream press cannot seem to acknowledge, let alone eliminate.

As you may know, Alice recently added "Transgender" to our name and objectives, and has begun the process of educating our membership about the struggle for transgender equality. We are appalled by the sort of insensitivity that the transgender community suffers at the hands of our local media who should know better.

The continuous tongue-in-cheek comments and snide remarks should seem familiar to lesbians and gays; we were once the group snickered at by the press who belittled our efforts to achieve equality. We know well that every dig and jab at the transgender community implicitly justifies their marginalization by the rest of society.

That must stop.

Although we are fortunate that many elected officials have pledged their support of transgender issues, there may be trouble on the horizon. Apparently the news of the granting of transgender medical care benefits has produced a flurry of negative phone calls, e-mails, and letters to the mayor and the Board of Supervisors. This negative response will likely increase as the issue comes before the board and the media scrutiny intensifies.

In order to ensure that our transgender neighbors and friends gain the rights and recognition that lesbians and gays have received, we must be unified and vigilant, and visible. As long as any sexual minority must fear systematic, government-sanctioned harassment and discrimination, the larger queer community suffers. We must take immediate action to show our elected officials that the time for equal rights for transgenders is long overdue.

I strongly urge you to contact the board members and mayor to encourage their support for transgender rights. Remind them that San Francisco prides itself on our tolerance and caring. We should not let the ridicule we will almost inevitably receive from the rest of the world, and perhaps from within our own city, deter us from striving to attain basic human rights for all people.

Once again we applaud your paper for making this issue a priority.

Paul M. Hogan, Chair
Alice B. Toklas Lesbian, Gay,
Bisexual, Transgender Democratic Club



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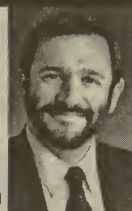
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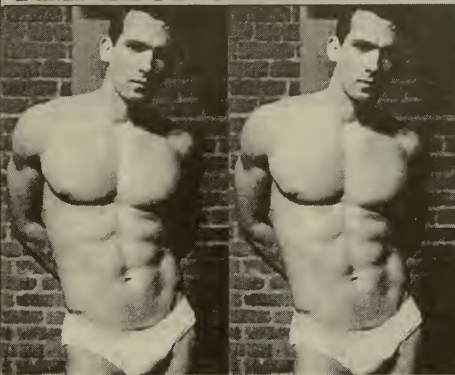
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A matter of marketing

I don't know if Eminem is a homophobe or closet case or just what his problem is concerning the subject of homosexuality. What I do know is that Eminem is to hip hop what Kenny G is to jazz. Eminem ripped off a black art form and sells more CDs than any black artist could dream about. It is simply a matter of marketing and the corporations love it. As for Elton John, give the old biddie a break, she hasn't had a hit since the death of Princess Diana.

Ronnie Burk
San Francisco

Check priorities, dog owners

This is in response to Mr. O'Neil's letter [Mailstrom, February 15]. As a responsible cat owner, I can understand the value of unconditional love. However, countless are the number of times I've almost tripped over someone's dog that is allowed to roam free in numerous cafes, stores, and sidewalks. Not unlike bratty children at the supermarket. It was your choice to try to raise a dog in the city when it really needs larger physical parameters. It is an animal and should be treated as such. It sickens me that there is more uproar over an animal than a human. Check your priorities dog owners, and meanwhile, keep your fucking dog out of my face! It's a good thing you got a therapist, human or not, now try human contact. We talk back.

Thom Story
San Francisco

A hollow victory

I was glad to see front page attention given to the new HIV treatment guidelines ["Government revises HIV treatment guidelines," February 8]. It is a hollow victory to be finally vindicated in my decision not to start meds when the so-called experts were pushing them as the be-all-end-all of HIV therapies.

First, let me say I believe these drugs have been beneficial to some people with AIDS. I personally know two people brought back from death's door by the combo treatments. If I ever find myself that ill I will fight my way to the front of the line for those treatments. That said, here are the facts:

This October, I will have been positive for 12 years. Although my T-cells dipped into the 200s eight years ago they rebounded and have remained in the 699-plus range for the last five years. My viral load has never reached 3,000. No doctor has ever treated me for an OI. I also test positive for hepatitis A, B, and C. And I have never taken any AIDS medications. Not one pill.

That decision has not been an easy one. The pressure to start meds from the medical and the HIV communities has been immense and intense. Nowhere, not even in so-called support groups, was I allowed to voice any caution about the haste to medicate healthy people who happen to test positive.

While I do not condone throwing soiled kitty litter on people, no matter how deserving, I can appreciate the passion and frustrations those militant types exhibit. I have yet to find a forum where my opinions can be shared in a respectful manner. And I shudder every time another healthy HIVer starts these known toxic drugs because "my doctor told me so."

When I was looking for a doctor I could work with I saw many so-called AIDS experts, recognizable names here in the city. I don't have an ego nearly as large as some I encountered so I won't embarrass them by name. I will tell you what a few of them said.

One doctor, who has an AIDS book, and appeared in the B.A.R. and on television told me if I didn't listen to her and start meds I "would be dead in six months." That was almost five years ago. A nurse practitioner at Ward 86 actually turned his back on me, shook his head, and accused me of "not being serious about your health" when I resisted his push to start meds. Another AIDS doctor, when asked why there were no studies for long-term, non-meds, non-progressors like myself, said, "...because they are all dead." Wow. I didn't know I was so special. Seems to me that would lead to more reasons to study the phenomenon.

All of this is to make a point about the lack of opportunity to voice any opinion differing from the ever-changing status quo treatment guidelines *de jour*. I understand fear. I understand the meds are sometimes, sadly, the only hope an HIVer has to cling to. But the early treatment push never made common sense. Just because your father and his father developed diabetes, doesn't mean you should start on insulin. You monitor your health and if and when the illness develops, you then take appropriate steps.

This push to early treatment has resulted in: previously healthy people reduced to cramping and hugging a toilet as a daily lifestyle; people who now have no treatment options as their illness progresses; people facing life-threatening liver damage; and the existence of more deadly and drug-resistant strains of the virus.

Can somebody please start a more objective dialogue about this rush to meds?

Larry O. Doss
San Francisco

HIV is colorblind

I was horrified to hear on an NPR report recently that as many as one out of every three black men in their 20s has HIV. The information came from a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention study that also indicated Latino gay men in the same age group had a 15 percent infection rate. Regardless of color, HIV and AIDS are devastating, persistent and colorblind. There's more we can do in terms of awareness and prevention among minorities, if not more we can do to find a cure for everyone.

While the federal government spends millions of dollars providing subsidies for tobacco farmers and now potentially dishing out millions to anti-gay and hateful religious organizations with tax exemptions and benefits, it seems clear to me that we should be able to justify spending more to reduce the HIV infection rate among people of color and on research to prevent and cure this devastating disease.

Eric Miller
San Francisco

High salaries not the problem

This is in response to Wayne Turner's critique of the Ryan White CARE Act [January 18].

Pat Christen's high salary has been a lightning rod for disgruntled activists which both oversimplifies and personalizes a complex issue. For example, if her entire salary (\$200,000 per year) were distributed to the 8,800 people living with AIDS in San Francisco, the result would be all of \$22.71 per year, per PWA or a whopping \$0.06 per day per person. High executive salaries are not the problem; chronic underfunding, inflated pharmaceutical prices, exorbitant real estate prices, and a disastrous political landscape cause the problem.

When people focus on Pat Christen's salary, it becomes personalized to her rather than generalized to the question of what is an exorbitant salary for someone working in public health. There are those (and not just in the nether reaches of the Republican Party) who feel that people in public health should all be working for poverty wages. It is more useful to focus on the ratio of the highest paid worker to the lowest paid worker in an organization. Since the lowest paid workers generally are the ones with the most client contact, this would tend to benefit the clients by drawing and keeping highly skilled people in contact with clients.

This was the first time someone outside of the discredited ACT UP/San Francisco-Michael Petrelis alliance has challenged the "frill" programs such as "dog walking." No one ever mentions, however, how much these programs cost. Unlike medical services that require more highly trained and highly paid personnel, "dog walking" is an unskilled task. It is hard to believe that these programs cost very much. If these programs cost a lot, the critics should publish the cost.

At this point with the Republicans in control of all three branches of government, it is very dangerous to charge that any AIDS program is underfunded. The pseudo-fiscal conservatives are almost salivating at the chance to cut social service spending and give the funds to missile defense.

Frankie D'Angeli
San Francisco

Memories of Tallulah

I agree with Richard Dodds's January review that Tallulah is not the insightful play that it might be, but whether or not the script cheapens Bankhead's memory is a question for legitimate debate.

This star of stage and screen was a lusty lady. My ex-wife Maria appeared on Broadway with her in a play called *Foolish Notion*, and my ex-mother-in-law Marlene Dietrich was her close friend - if not (as some have suggested) her occasional lover. They both had bawdy tales to tell of Tallulah, some of which have never been reported in the press.

As an actress, Bankhead did her best work in *The Little Foxes* and *The Skin of Our Teeth* on Broadway and in *A Royal Scandal* and *Lifeboat* in films. But from the mid-1940s onward she parodied herself.

She turned Cocteau's serious play *The Eagle Has Two Heads* into high camp. (I saw this production, and the audience was in hysterics over the idea of Tallulah as a virgin queen!) This was the play from which she had Brando fired; he was replaced by Helmut Dantine. In 1949 I acted in *No Time For Comedy* with Helmut; we became friends and he told me in graphic detail of the "services" which he was required to perform for his "star lady," as he called her. I was also close friends with William Eythe, who was Tallulah's leading man in *A Royal Scandal*; Bill, too, had raunchy tales to tell of Bankhead.

I had many opportunities to spend time with Bankhead, but I chose to do so only once - at a bar and restaurant called Ralph's on 45th Street in New York. She talked to me and two friends for hours nonstop about baseball, sex, and herself, not necessarily in that order, and I tell you true - that conversation was chock-full of sexual innuendoes and four letter words.

Sandra Ryan Heyward's script doesn't reveal the sad, lonely lady which I believe Bankhead was in private, but her play and Kathleen Turner's flamboyant performance are pretty accurate when it comes to the way Bankhead behaved with friends and in public appearances.

Dean Goodman
San Francisco

POLITICS

Right turn for state GOP

by Wayne Friday

After three straight defeats at the polls, California Republicans met in Sacramento last weekend and the 1,400 delegates showed they have no interest in moderate politics as they elected a slate of conservative officers.

Los Angeles attorney **Shawn Steel**, a Republican right-winger, won a bitter contest for party chair over moderate former Assemblyman **Leonard Firestone**, a millionaire wine maker and rubber heir. Firestone reportedly spent approximately \$200,000 on his unsuccessful bid to gain control of the state party. In a contest that most Republicans conceded was a "stark move to the right," Steel accused Firestone of selling out party principles and said the GOP "simply needs to do a better job of promoting its ideals and getting its apathetic voters to

Our Man Friday

the polls" in order to win elections. California Republicans have lost three statewide elections. Even as the GOP won the White House and retained control of the House of Representatives in November, its nominee for president, **George W. Bush**, lost the state to Democrat **Al Gore** by 1,300,000 votes. While Firestone supporters wanted to reach out to moderates and independents — including women and California's growing minority population — Steel's election as state chair suggests the party will take an even more conservative stand and continue to oppose abortion, gay rights, and gun control. Steel's backers, including some from the religious right such as the Reverend **Lou Sheldon**, accused Firestone supporters of "pretending to be a bit more Democrat" and some Steel supporters passed out literature calling GOP moderates "the real cancer in the Republican Party."

Hope for defeating Democratic Governor **Gray Davis** in the 2002 gubernatorial election was also at a near all-time low as only one GOP possibility for governor bothered to show up. Secretary of State **Bill Jones** spoke to the delegates, worked the crowd, and reportedly set off very few sparks among the conservative attendees. Two other suggested candidates for governor, actor **Arnold Schwarzenegger** and L.A. banker **William E. Simon Jr.**, both ignored the confab, with Simon reportedly opting to take his family on a ski vacation instead.

Not only were Republican moderates rebuffed at the convention, top state GOP candidates stayed away, and national Republican political stars avoided the confab as well. In fact, the scheduled speaker at the Sunday prayer breakfast, Attorney General **John Ashcroft**, canceled, and the state Republicans quickly summoned controversial talk show host **Laura Schlessinger** as a replacement. Schlessinger, speaking of the absent Ashcroft, praised the attorney general, saying that "at least we can breathe a sign of relief that the Constitution is in capable, God-fearing hands."

Schlessinger's self-described "message of morality" included an attack on Democrats for being the party that's "pro-gay, pro-abortion and anti-gun;" she closed her speech to a standing ovation by urging Republicans "to bring back

morals to America."

While some Republicans in Sacramento tried to make political hay by blaming the state's energy crisis on Davis, California voters apparently aren't feeling the same way about the governor. A *Los Angeles Times* poll this week showed Davis getting high marks for his efforts and the *Times* said that Californians are in fact blaming everyone but Davis — the poll shows California voters down on the Legislature, the Public Utilities Commission, and utility companies like PG&E and Southern California Edison. Voters seem quick to point out, too, that it was under former GOP Governor **Pete Wil-**

son that all this got started. Indeed, even some Republicans in the capitol city last weekend were privately saying that they would need much more than the energy crisis if they harbor any hope of defeating Davis next year. The

California Republicans reportedly left their state convention even more divided and depressed than they were before they arrived and California Democrats and Davis wouldn't have it any other way.

Politics and people

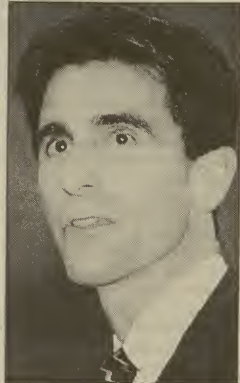
More from Washington: That "sample review" conducted by the *Miami Herald* that shows George W. Bush beat Democrat **Al Gore** in Dade County by 140 votes was just that — a sample review. No word, however, about the 23,000 votes reportedly thrown out in Democratic areas, or the many African American voters who weren't even allowed to vote in **Jeb Bush's** Banana Republic of Florida.

Meanwhile, President Bush held his first news conference before the White House press corps last week and the grades weren't good. Dubya failed the grammar test miserably, sidestepped questions, seemed quite unfamiliar with most important policy matters, kept glancing at his notes that apparently contained prepared answers to anticipated questions, and, if anything, indicated that he's likely to have very few of these press conferences in the future.

Also, word from the White House press corps is that Bush's press secretary, **Ari Fleischer**, is not faring much better. Reporters claim that Fleischer is seen as a spinner, not a substantive person, and it appears he's definitely not in the "Texas loop" and doesn't have the access that he should have to the boss; White House reporters apparently were quick to note that Fleischer was unprepared, answered too many questions with the usual "I'll have to check that one out" and lacked the apparent access to Bush that all press spokespeople need to have.

And it's not a topic that most will discuss openly, but those close to Senator **Strom Thurmond**, the 98-year-old Republican from South Carolina, fear that he is failing quickly; even less sensitive Senate members report that North Carolina Senator **Jesse Helms** (R), 79, is also severely ill. Should either Thurmond or Helms leave the Senate before their terms end in January 2003, Democratic governors in either of those states would likely appoint a Democratic successor, giving control of the U.S. Senate to the Democrats with 51 Democrats and 49 Republicans in the Senate. The

unprecedented agreement on power-sharing between the two parties (the Senate is now split evenly 50-50), consisting of equal representation on Senate committees and other arrangements, would no longer be operative. The Senate likely would reorganize itself with Minority Leader **Tom Daschle** in all probability replacing Republican **Trent Lott** as majority leader and Democrats again taking over committee chairmanships. This, of course, is not good news for President Bush.



Supervisor Mark Leno

Unfortunately, there will always be some crude jokes, but Supervisor **Mark Leno** deserves high marks for pushing to make San Francisco the first city to provide health insurance to cover sex-change operations for municipal workers. While there are currently only about 12 city workers identified as transgender who could take advantage of the new benefits package, Leno worked tirelessly on the proposal, which was adopted last month by the city's Health Services Board. The benefits package still must be approved by the Board of Supervisors.

Washington, D.C. gossips are saying that President Bush and Federal Reserve Chairman **Alan Greenspan**, despite their public utterances, are on a collision course with Bush publicly predicting a serious economic downturn while the Fed boss remains the headmaster from the school of optimism.

Still gloating, those Republicans: U.S. Representative **John Doolittle**, that notoriously anti-gay GOP congressman from the Sacramento area, speaking at a recent Placer County GOP dinner, drew big applause when he boasted that "This is the first time since 1928 that we've got both houses of Congress, the presidency, and the Supreme Court."

So the Log Cabin Republicans are "honored" by their recent meeting with Attorney General John Ashcroft and his promise that his goal "is to make sure the country understands he will enforce the law for all people." Well, damn, that's big news, huh? But isn't that what the guy is supposed to do? Who is next on the Log Cabin lunch list, Laura Schlessinger?

My "quote of the week" is from the *Village Voice's* Michael Musto, speaking on the embarrassing duet last week at the Grammy's by **Elton John** and anti-gay rapper **Eminem**: "That very out (of his mind) gay, Elton John, might not realize that his new best friend, Eminem, sings a song knocking the death of his last best friend, designer **Gianni Versace**. Hey, Elton - can you feel the shame tonight? Nymphos!"

And how was your week? ▼

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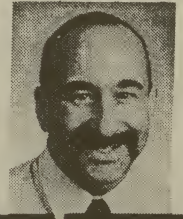
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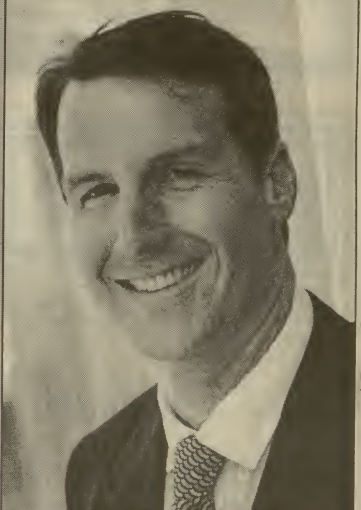
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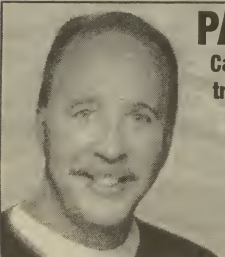
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Gays & guns: A risky mix

by Paula Martinac

Ask any lesbian or gay man about the First Amendment and its protections of religion, speech, and the right of assembly, and you'll undoubtedly get some very passionate responses. But what about our Second Amendment right "to keep and bear arms"? Although many of us support gun control, there's a new movement of pro-gun queers raising provocative questions that may help our community arrive at solutions to the problem of anti-gay violence.

It would be easy for progressives to dismiss the new attention-grabbing gays-for-guns movement as a strange offshoot of the gay male right. After all, the Pink Pistols, the lesbian and gay "shooters" group that already has chapters in nine cities, took its inspiration from an opinion piece by conservative gay journalist Jonathan Rauch.

In Web magazine *Salon* last year, Rauch complained that gay people have too often presented themselves as victims and haven't been able to escape the stereotype of homosexuals as limp-wristed fags. Carrying concealed weapons that we know how to use could change our image and serve as the perfect deterrent to gay bashers. Unfortunately, Rauch forgot to talk about lesbians, whose stereotype as swaggering bulldozers would have messed up his tidy argument.

Rauch's position on guns is consistent with his politics. But now progressive-thinking queers are coming out as pro-gun as well, and lesbians and bisexual women are reportedly joining shooters groups, too. The co-founder of Pink Pistols, for example, voted for Ralph Nader in 2000. And a recent article in the *Pittsburgh City Paper* about the fledgling Pink Pistols chapter there interviewed a member of the group who is active in the Democratic Party but rejects the traditional liberal stance for tighter gun controls.

What's all this about? Understandably, there is frustration in the queer community about our inability to protect ourselves. While we spend valuable money and time lobbying a resistant Congress for inclusion in the federal hate crimes act, lesbians and gay men continue to be bashed and killed.

Now some in our community are arguing that hate crimes legislation won't do any good anyway. The answer, they suggest, is for us to start toting guns – not to stage a revolution, but just to brandish or use them when attacked. Once youthful gay bashers get the message that we're armed and dangerous, hate crimes won't seem like so much fun and the stereotype of gays as weak will shatter.

It's an interesting idea and one that crops up in the women's movement, too, since so often violent men view women and children as easy prey. The Massachusetts-based group Arming Women Against Rape and Endangerment (AWARE) runs workshops that train participants to use everything from pepper spray to semi-automatic weapons.

In addition, there's a historical precedent for suggesting that the lesbian and gay community arm itself. In 1966, Huey P. Newton and Bobby Seale founded the Black Panther Party for Self-Defense because they were fed up with the lack of progress the moderate, nonviolent leadership of the civil rights movement had made through legislative channels. The Black Panthers encouraged blacks to protest gun control and to arm themselves against persistent racial violence. Interestingly, the Web site for the Pink Pistols (www.pinkpistols.org) displays a quote attributed to Black Panther Stokely Carmichael: "I will be nonviolent with you as long as you are nonviolent with me."

But the persistent stereotype of

men of color as violent and dangerous upsets the strategy of arming gay people. In New York City, for example, police officers have been known to open fire when they "mistake" an unarmed black man's wallet or pager for a handgun. For queer men of color, then, race complicates what to white pro-gun gays may look like an "easy" solution.

Although I don't agree with Rauch and the Pink Pistols about guns, hate crimes legislation, or cowardly individualism, I do believe we need to come up with new answers to anti-gay violence. And I don't mean sending additional lesbian and gay lobbyists to Washington.

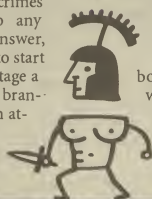
For more than 30 years now, a variety of

queer community-based solutions – everything from rioting in the streets to engaging in civil disobedience to founding social services to operating hate crimes hotlines – have enabled us to take care of ourselves when straight people turned away from our issues.

Here's one idea that a few communities have already tried. Because anti-gay crimes often occur in neighborhoods where queers are visible and out, we might take New York City's Guardian Angels as a model for group action. Founded in 1978, the Angels are volunteers who receive training in physical self-defense, the art of verbal negotiation, and first aid. They also learn civilian law and how to make citizens' arrests.

In the same way, queer safety patrols could operate as visual deterrents to crime by sending an important message to potential bashers: Dykes and fags know how to take care of their own. ▼

Paula Martinac is the author of seven books. She can be reached care of this publication or at LNcolumn@aol.com. For more Lesbian Notions, visit www.planetout.com.



Lesbian Notions

Put your minority status to work at museum

by Katie Szymanski

Those who have always wanted to help expel the harmful stereotypes and vicious slurs of the world finally have their chance, thanks to a unique event sponsored by the Bay Area Discovery Museum in Sausalito.

The museum is seeking at least 15 people to act as community facilitators for "Face to Face," a traveling exhibit from the Chicago Children's Museum that teaches kids ages 5-10 about the types of discrimination and exclusion that target various populations.

"Facilitators will basically be on hand to talk to kids and par-

ents as questions and issues come up," said Derek Henkle, spokesman for the museum and himself a gay man who is excited to see his own community represented in the display. "Common things that come up are around gender identity, words like 'sissy,' and different types of families."

Volunteers must put in a minimum of three weekend half-days (of a few hours each) to help visitors interpret, understand, and interact with the exhibit; to enrich the theme of the exhibit through their individual and diverse experiences of prejudice; and to share their own approaches to creating inclusion and appreciation for diversity.

"Face to Face" has been up

since February 10 and will run through the middle of May. Those who would like to check out the exhibit also may want to catch "Cootie Shots," a performance troupe that tackles diversity issues, performing at the museum this Saturday, March 3, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; this weekend, Cootie Shots will look at how recent anti-hate legislation is being implemented in the schools.

More information on volunteering for Face to Face is available by calling Beth Gilbert at (415) 289-7283, or e-mailing bgilbert@badm.org. The Bay Area Discovery Museum is at East Fort Baker, 557 McReynolds Road, under the Golden Gate Bridge. ▼

Drug patent

◀ page 5

has an extraordinary opportunity to address the high price of the AIDS pandemic on the world's poorest nations by keeping this executive order in place. To reverse the executive order is to override a compassionate and strategic response to a global health crisis.

French continued, "We hope that President Bush will use every

tool available – economic, trade, and diplomatic policies as well as humanitarian aid – to help these countries stop the spread of AIDS."

Locally, in mid-January, San Francisco Supervisor Chris Daly introduced a board resolution urging Bush to retain the executive order.

From the other side, the pharmaceutical industry has pressured the new administration to change the policy, arguing that it allows poor countries to ignore intellectual property rights. The Pharma-

ceutical Manufacturers Association of South Africa has filed a lawsuit against a 1997 South African law that enables the country to obtain less expensive drugs through compulsory licensing and parallel importing; the case is scheduled to be heard in Pretoria High Court on March 5. South African and U.S. AIDS treatment activists have declared this Monday a "Global Day of Action and Solidarity" in support of those seeking affordable medications. ▼

HISTORY LESSON

How did Rio's Carnaval get to be so gay?

by Rawley Grau

February 27, 1939 (62 years ago this week): Dressed like Carmen Miranda, hundreds of gay men join the street festivities of Rio de Janeiro's Carnaval.

For a few days every year, the streets of Rio de Janeiro overflow with beautiful women in elaborate plumed head-dresses, gold-lamé bikinis, colorful sequined gowns, flowing diaphanous robes, and other fanciful costumes, dancing to the pulsating, syncopated rhythms of the samba and exuding a wild, uninhibited sexual allure. This is Carnaval, Rio's Mardi Gras festival, and these exotic, fantastic beauties are not women, but drag queens.

With its street parties, parades, drag balls, and costume contests, Rio's Carnaval, the three-day festival leading up to Ash Wednesday, has become the gayest event in Brazil. Today, the gay tourist industry in North America, Europe, and Australia promotes the event as an international gay holiday, along the lines of Gay Pride Day in New York and San Francisco, or Sydney's Mardi Gras.

But Rio's Carnaval, which dates from the 17th century, was not always so gay. Although cross-dressing has long been part of the celebration, the men who dressed up as brides, pregnant women, or prostitutes were doing so in a comic parody of womanhood. Any suggestion that they might be homosexual would have appalled them.

It was only in 1930 that gay men began to have an organized presence at Carnaval. That year, a drag performer named Antonio Setta formed the Carnaval street group *Cacadores de Veados* (the Deer Hunters) — a play on the word *viado*, a Portuguese pejorative for an effeminate gay man. Setta and his friends paraded through the streets of Rio in luxurious sequined gowns — very different from the everyday female attire worn by heterosexual cross-dressers.

The gay presence at Carnaval took a more definite form in 1939. In early February, the Brazilian film *Banana de Terra* opened in Rio, with Carmen Miranda playing a *baiana* — a woman from the northeastern Brazilian state of Bahia — who sings and dances with a basket of fruit balanced on her turbaned head. Miranda would soon go to Hollywood and be immortalized

— and trapped — in this image, a semi-ridiculous, simplistic icon of South America. But she was revered by Brazil's gay men, many of whom poured onto the streets of Rio in 1939, dressed like her in white hoop skirts and turbans. The *falsa baiana* soon became a fixture of the Carnaval celebration.

Carnaval gay balls and costume contests developed in the 1940s in several of Rio's vaudeville theaters. Although most of the men who attended were

not in female drag — they were dressed as sailors or pirates, or in other flamboyant but masculine costumes — it was the sequined and feathered drag queens who were the main attraction. Newspapers began to report on the gay balls in the 1950s, some with obvious disdain, others with condescension and even grudging admiration. One reporter in 1953 noted the unusual social mix at these events: "Enthusiastically expressing feelings repressed during

the rest of the year, doctors, lawyers, waiters ..., diplomats, journalists, salesmen, in short, representatives of all social classes appear in very expensive costumes belonging to the fragile sex."

But other Carnaval revelers often became hostile, at times jeering and throwing stones at the men in drag. After a riot broke out in 1957, the government shut down the drag contests for a few years (though the balls continued) and increased the police security in the area.

The violence abated as the gay balls became more and more a spectacle, with huge crowds turning out to see the men in extravagant costumes. By the 1960s, such events as the *Baile dos Enxutos* (Ball of Shapely Men) had become a major part of the Carnaval festivities (because of the popularity of this ball, the word *enxuto* became a common term for "gay").

Around the same time, a new tradition began. Drag queens who had been arrested during Carnaval (usually for creating a public disturbance, sometimes for same-sex kissing) started giving impromptu performances from the police station steps when they were released on Ash Wednesday morning. This became a regular post-Carnaval event. By 1966, more than 6,000 people were attending the gay balls, and some 700 detainees were taking part in the Ash Wednesday parade from the police station.

Except for the years 1971-1973, when Brazil's military leaders attempted to stamp out public displays of homosexuality during Carnaval, the presence of cross-dressing and flamboyant gay men has continued to grow, becoming an indelible part of the Carnaval experience. And since 1984, the group *Banda de Carmen Miranda* has organized a street celebration in Rio's Ipanema neighborhood specifically for the gay and lesbian community.

Brazilian society on the whole

remains distinctly hostile to homosexuals, especially to effeminate men and transgendered people, and in an extremely violent manner. According to a report from 1996, "a homosexual is brutally murdered every four days [in Brazil], a victim of homophobia that pervades Brazilian society." The gay rights movement in Brazil, begun in 1980, has had some success in improving conditions for gays and lesbians, especially in Rio and São Paulo, but much more needs to be done.

Still, despite the hostile environment, in the course of six decades, gay men — especially effeminate and transgendered men — have been able to carve out a proud place for themselves at Rio's Carnaval. ▼

Rawley Grau has won four Vice Versa Awards for his writing on gay and lesbian culture. He can be reached at GayNestor@aol.com. For more Past Out, visit www.planetout.com.



Past Out

Remember Prop N? IT'S BACK!



Mark and Richard, with their kids Brittany, Robert and Albert. "Richard's not on the deed. What will happen to him and the kids if something happens to me?", asks Mark

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WHO THOUGHT SAN FRANCISCO MIGHT TAKE THAT AWAY FROM YOU!

Do voters matter? Not according to Supervisor Daly. Prop N was defeated in 85% of San Francisco's precincts last November. Clearly, San Franciscans want TICs and to preserve the chance for homeownership they represent. Yet Supervisor Daly has re-introduced a measure to put an end to Tenancy-in-Common.

It's STILL bad for the Gay and Lesbian community. Without TICs, gays and lesbians have a hard time owning property together except under strict conditions. Gay and Lesbian couples do not have the same property ownership rights as married couples — especially with regard to their ability to bequest their property to their partner. Limiting TIC ownership is a direct dilution of gay rights. Why restrict what rights we have?

Tenants in Common ownership gives singles and couples in our community the right to pool resources and buy a home of our own. We will lose this if Supervisor Daly's measure passes.

TICs are the most affordable housing for purchase in the city. Let's preserve and promote homeownership in San Francisco — not take it away.

KEEP YOUR RIGHTS! WRITE, FAX OR CALL YOUR SUPERVISOR.

LET THEM KNOW THAT NO MEANS NO!

The Mayor and Supervisors:
Mayor/Supervisor, City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102.

Mayor Brown
damayor@ci.sf.ca.us

1: The Richmond
Sup. Jake McGoldrick
(415) 554-7410 - voice
(415) 554-7415 - fax
Jake_McGoldrick@ci.sf.ca.us

2: The Marina
Sup. Gavin Newsom
(415) 554-5942 - voice
(415) 554-5946 - fax
Gavin_Newsom@ci.sf.ca.us

3: North Beach/Chinatown
Sup. Aaron Peskin
(415) 554-7450 - voice
(415) 554-7454 - fax
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4: Outer Sunset
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5: Haight/Western Addition
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6: Tenderloin/SOMA/North
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7: West of Twin Peaks
Sup. Tony Hall
(415) 554-6516 - voice
(415) 554-6546 - fax
Tony_Hall@ci.sf.ca.us

8: Castro and Noe Valley
Sup. Mark Leno
(415) 554-7734 - voice
(415) 554-7739 - fax
Mark_Leno@ci.sf.ca.us

9: Mission
Sup. Tom Ammiano
(President)
(415) 554-5144 - voice
(415) 554-6255 - fax
Tom_Ammiano@ci.sf.ca.us

10: Bayview and Potrero Hill
Sup. Sophie Maxwell
(415) 554-7670 - voice
(415) 554-7674 - fax
Sophie_Maxwell@ci.sf.ca.us

11: Excelsior
Sup. Gerardo Sandoval
(415) 554-6975 - voice
(415) 554-6979 - fax
Gerardo_Sandoval@ci.sf.ca.us

Suggested reading

Green, James N., 1999. *Beyond Carnival: Male Homosexuality in Twentieth-Century Brazil*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Green, James N., 1999. "More Love and More Desire": The Building of a Brazilian Movement," in Barry D. Adam, Jan Willem Duyvendak, and Andre Krouwel, eds., *The Global Emergence of Gay and Lesbian Politics: National Imprints of a Worldwide Movement*. Philadelphia: Temple University Press. Pp. 91-109.

Murray, Stephen O., ed. 1995. *Latin American Male Homosexualities*. Albuquerque, N.M.: University of New Mexico Press.

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You've got male

by Jane Warner

300 block of Douglass, February 20, 3:30 p.m.: A postal carrier making her rounds noticed a green four-door Mazda drive ahead of her and pull to the curb. The driver leaned out the window and motioned with his head for her to come over. The carrier walked over to see what the driver wanted and suddenly the car door swung open to reveal the driver naked and masturbating.

The postal carrier quickly walked back to her truck and contacted her supervisor who called the police. The driver, described as a white male in his 30s with blond hair, drove away in an unknown direction.

Allowed alarm

Walgreens, 498 Castro, February 17, 11:30 p.m.: A man walking out of Walgreens set off the security buzzer. The man stopped and looked at the clerk who told him, "It didn't go off when you came in." The man calmly replied, "Well maybe it's my gun," and lifted the flap on his jacket pocket to reveal a stainless steel revolver. The man, described as African American, 5 feet 8 inches, 190 pounds, wearing a dark blue cap and dark blue jacket, proceeded to walk out the doors in an unknown direction.

Juicy clue

Old Republic Title Company, 1965 Market, February 20, 7:30

a.m.: When an escrow assistant arrived for work after the three-day weekend, she discovered a window shattered and the front door open. The employee telephoned her boss from her cell phone and informed her of the burglary. The assistant waited outside the office until her boss arrived a short time later. Together, the women proceeded into the suite. After inspection, the only things discovered missing were 50 pieces of Jolly Rancher candy taken from the reception desk. Suspects are unknown.

Site for sore eyes

Bosworth and Diamond, February 9, 4:10 p.m.

A 16-year-old boy sitting at the bus stop across the street from the Glen Park station was

approached by another teenage boy who suddenly pulled out a pistol-like BB gun and shot him in the face. The pellet struck the boy in the left eye and he fell to the ground in agony.

The suspect, described only as "short, normal sized and young looking" ran away in an unknown direction. A man who had possibly witnessed the attack and took the boy to San Francisco General Hospital left the hospital before police could interview him. The victim, whose X-rays revealed a BB pellet lodged between his left eyeball and eye socket, told officers he has no idea who the suspect is or what provoked the attack, only that his assailant was laughing before he pulled the trigger. The boy was listed in stable condition and was scheduled for surgery. ▼



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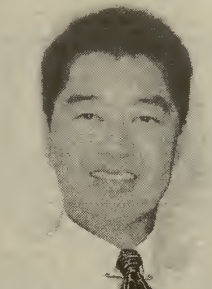
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Lesbian cartoonist attacked

by Katie Szymanski

Local law enforcement and Community United Against Violence need the public's help in apprehending the person responsible for attacking lesbian cartoonist Kris Kovick last month in Bernal Heights.

Kovick, known for her work in the magazines *Girljock* and *Burning Bush* and for her illustrations in many lesbian and feminist books, was reportedly walking through the neighborhood on the afternoon of January 17 when a man driving a 1990 blue and maroon Ford Ranger failed to stop at a stop sign at Montcalm and Alabama while she was in the crosswalk. The driver brushed Kovick with his bumper, and she tapped the side of his truck with a shovel she was carrying. The assailant then made a U-turn and attempted to hit her, forcing her to jump out of the way. He got out of his truck and yelled, "You bitch! No one touches my car. I'm a cop. I'm calling you in!" Kovick responded,

"You're not a cop or else you would have stopped. Go ahead and call 911, then tell them you tried to ram me - twice!"

Kovick continued walking home. The assailant returned to his vehicle and followed her. He made another U-turn, screeching, then opened his glove box. Kovick, fearing he was reaching for a weapon, hurried her dog inside. She then tried to get into her house while trying to prevent the assailant from getting out of his car. When he got his door open, he screamed, "I'm going to kill you, you fucking dyke!"

Kovick turned and took six to eight punches to her neck, ribs, and spine. She read and yelled out the license plate to her upstairs neighbors, who wrote it down and called 911. Police arrived 35 minutes later.

The California license plate read at the scene was 5B50497. However, the registered owner of the vehicle does not match the description of the attacker: a white male, 55 years of age, 5 feet 5 inches tall with close-cropped gray hair, wearing a blue jacket with an

insignia on the chest.

"It could be that a letter or number was reversed when the plate was written down, or it could be that the driver was not in his own car," said Tina D'Elia, hate violence survivor program director at CUAU.

One clue authorities do have is that the driver seemed very familiar with the neighborhood, because a concerned neighbor who tried to follow him via automobile lost him.

"It is suspicious that this person knows how to meander through Bernal Heights area," said D'Elia, who noted that the case is being investigated as a hate crime.

Anyone with information that may be useful to this case is asked to call Inspector Moore at the Special Investigations Unit at (415) 553-1133, or Tina D'Elia at CUAU, (415) 777-5500, ext. 304. The case number is: 010069143.

"A person who thinks they know something can give information confidentially," said D'Elia. "Even if someone just wants to call in the correct license plate ... anything is helpful." ▼

New officer on patrol in the Castro

by Katie Szymanski

Castro regulars may be wondering about the new guy who walks around sporting crisp police blues. And while Darrin Dill will not be joining the young men for a round at the bars on uniform night, neighbors may run into him during a tavern brawl, while shopping for groceries, or when taking a simple stroll on the street.

Dill, 38, is the newest member of the San Francisco Patrol Special Police, a private force under the umbrella of the San Francisco Police Department that is hired to protect the specific communities of the districts spanning from Upper Market to Mission. He joins Special Patrol Officers Jane Warner and Chuck Evans in their duties to respond to complaints and to prevent crime.

"I see this as a helping position," Dill told the *Bay Area Reporter*. He has been on the job for about two weeks but has already



Darrin Dill

been making regular rounds, including meeting with community leaders like Castro Supervisor Mark Leno.

"When I met Jane Warner about two years ago, I was so impressed watching what she did," said Dill. "Whether she was working with homeless folks, merchants, elected officials, or youth, she has a connection to everybody, and I knew I wanted to be a part of that."

As a certified drug counselor with an extensive background in treatment work and experience as a case manager, Dill says his emphasis will be on referring people to services rather than arresting them.

"I made it very clear that if they were looking for someone to kick butt and put people away, then they shouldn't hire me," said Dill. "I want everyone to know about the resources available to them so that they can get a leg up in life."

Yet Dill remains skillfully trained by the SFPD, and knows that someday he may have to use force.

"Thankfully I haven't come across any hate violence on my shifts," he said, noting that so far his new work experience has been quite smooth. Dill, a gay man who lives in the South of Market district and frequents the Castro, looks forward to making his living protecting people of all backgrounds.

"Most of all I want to serve the community," he said. "I have a lot to learn, but hopefully a lot to offer too." ▼

A black and white photograph of a muscular arm, likely of a man, flexing and holding a single yellow rose. The arm is the central focus, with the hand gripping the stem of the flower. The background is a dark, cloudy sky. The text "STRENGTH AGAINST HIV" is superimposed over the lower part of the arm.

STRENGTH AGAINST HIV



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KALETRA™ is for the treatment of HIV infection in combination with other antiretroviral (ARV) agents. This is based on analyses of plasma HIV RNA levels and CD₄ T-cell counts in a controlled study of KALETRA of 24 weeks' duration and in smaller, uncontrolled, dose-ranging studies of KALETRA of 72 weeks' duration.

At present, there are no results from controlled trials evaluating the effect of KALETRA on the clinical progression of HIV.



KALETRA helps fight HIV

KALETRA, when taken with other medicines, has been shown to reduce the amount of HIV in the blood and increase the number of CD₄ T-cells. However, KALETRA is not a cure for HIV infection or AIDS. The long-term effects of KALETRA are not known at this time either. Individuals taking KALETRA may still develop opportunistic infections or other conditions associated with HIV infection.

Over 24 weeks, most patients found that they could stay with a KALETRA-based regimen. Only 2% of 326 patients stopped taking KALETRA because of drug-related side effects (12% stopped for other reasons).

KALETRA is taken twice daily—in the morning and evening. Your healthcare professional will tell you how much KALETRA to take. KALETRA is to be taken with your choice of food, but there are no rules on what you eat or how much liquid you drink. KALETRA is also available as a liquid.

Safety considerations

KALETRA should not be used with ergotamine, ergonovine, dihydroergotamine, and methylergonovine such as Cafergot®, Migranal®, D.H.E. 45®, Ergotrate Maleate, Methergine® and others, Halcion® (triazolam), Hismanal® (astemizole), Orap® (pimozide), Propulsid® (cisapride), Rythmol® (propafenone), Seldane® (terfenadine), Tambocor™ (flecainide), Versed® (midazolam).

Taking certain drugs with KALETRA could create the potential for life-threatening side effects. Always talk to your doctor or pharmacist before starting new medications.

KALETRA should not be taken if you have had an allergic reaction to KALETRA (lopinavir/ritonavir) or any of its ingredients.

Pancreatitis and liver problems have been reported in patients receiving KALETRA. In some patients taking protease inhibitors, increased bleeding (in patients with hemophilia) and diabetes/high blood sugar have occurred. Changes in body fat have been seen in some patients receiving ARV therapy. Some patients receiving KALETRA have had large increases in triglycerides and cholesterol, which should be monitored before and during therapy.

The most commonly reported KALETRA-related side effects of moderate severity are: abnormal stools, diarrhea, feeling weak/tired, headache, and nausea.

For more information about KALETRA: Call 1-800-441-4987 toll free.

Ask your doctor or other healthcare professional.

Please see adjacent page for Patient Information.

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KALETRA™
(lopinavir/ritonavir) capsules
(lopinavir/ritonavir) oral solution

ALERT: Find out about drugs that should NOT be taken with KALETRA. Please also read the section "MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH KALETRA."

Patient Information

KALETRA™
(kuh-LEE-tra)

Generic Name: lopinavir/ritonavir
(lop-IN-uh-veer/rit-ON-uh-veer)

Read this leaflet carefully before you start taking KALETRA. Also, read it each time you get your KALETRA prescription refilled, in case something has changed. This information does not take the place of talking with your doctor when you start this medicine and at check ups. Ask your doctor if you have any questions about KALETRA.

What is KALETRA and how does it work?

KALETRA is a combination of two medicines. They are lopinavir and ritonavir. KALETRA is a type of medicine called an HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) protease (PRO-tee-ase) inhibitor. KALETRA is always used in combination with other anti-HIV medicines to treat people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. KALETRA is for adults and for children age 6 months and older.

HIV infection destroys CD4 (T) cells, which are important to the immune system. After a large number of T cells are destroyed, acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) develops.

KALETRA blocks HIV protease, a chemical which is needed for HIV to multiply. KALETRA reduces the amount of HIV in your blood and increases the number of T cells. Reducing the amount of HIV in the blood reduces the chance of death or infections that happen when your immune system is weak (opportunistic infections).

Does KALETRA cure HIV or AIDS?

KALETRA does not cure HIV infection or AIDS. The long-term effects of KALETRA are not known at this time. People taking KALETRA may still get opportunistic infections or other conditions that happen with HIV infection. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, and *Mycobacterium avium* complex (MAC) infections.

Does KALETRA reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?

KALETRA does not reduce the risk of passing HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination. Continue to practice safe sex and do not use or share dirty needles.

How should I take KALETRA?

- You should stay under a doctor's care when taking KALETRA. Do not change your treatment or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.
- You must take KALETRA every day exactly as your doctor prescribed it. The dose of KALETRA may be different for you than for other patients. Follow the directions from your doctor, exactly as written on the label.
- Dosing in adults (including children 12 years of age and older): The usual dose for adults is 3 capsules (400/100 mg) or 5.0 mL of the oral solution twice a day (morning and night), in combination with other anti-HIV medicines.
- Dosing in children from 6 months to 12 years of age: Children from 6 months to 12 years of age can also take KALETRA. The child's doctor will decide the right dose based on the child's weight.
- Take KALETRA with food to help it work better.
- Do not change your dose or stop taking KALETRA without first talking with your doctor.
- When your KALETRA supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. This is very important because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may develop resistance to KALETRA and become harder to treat.
- Be sure to set up a schedule and follow it carefully.
- Only take medicine that has been prescribed specifically for you. Do not give KALETRA to others or take medicine prescribed for someone else.

What should I do if I miss a dose of KALETRA?

It is important that you do not miss any doses. If you miss a dose of KALETRA, take it as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose at its regular time. If it is almost time for your next dose, do not take the missed dose. Wait and take the next dose at the regular time. Do not double the next dose.

What happens if I take too much KALETRA?

If you suspect that you took more than the prescribed dose of this medicine, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately.

As with all prescription medicines, KALETRA should be kept out of the reach of young children. KALETRA liquid contains a large amount of alcohol. If a toddler or young child accidentally drinks more than the recommended dose of KALETRA, it could make him/her sick from too much alcohol. Contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately if this happens.

Who should not take KALETRA?

Together with your doctor, you need to decide whether KALETRA is right for you.

- Do not take KALETRA if you are taking certain medicines. These could cause serious side effects that could cause death. Before you take KALETRA, you must tell your doctor about all the medicines you are taking or are planning to take. These include other prescription and non-prescription medicines and herbal supplements.

For more information about medicines you should not take with KALETRA, please read the section titled "MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH KALETRA."

- Do not take KALETRA if you have an allergy to KALETRA or any of its ingredients, including ritonavir or lopinavir.

Can I take KALETRA with other medications?

KALETRA may interact with other medicines, including those you take without a prescription. You must tell your doctor about all the medicines you are taking or planning to take before you take KALETRA.

MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH KALETRA.

- Do not take the following medicines with KALETRA because they can cause serious problems or death if taken with KALETRA:
 - Dihydroergotamine, ergonovine, ergotamine and methylexgonovine such as Cafergot®, Migranal®, D.H.E. 45®, Ergotrate Maleate, Methergine, and others
 - Halcion® (triazolam)
 - Hismanal® (astemizole)
 - Orap® (pimozide)
 - Propulsid® (cisapride)
 - Rhythmol® (propafenone)
 - Seldane® (terfenadine)
 - Tambacor® (flecainide)
 - Versed® (midazolam)
- Do not take KALETRA with rifampin, also known as Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, or Rifamate®. Rifampin may lower the amount of KALETRA in your blood and make it less effective.
- Do not take KALETRA with St. John's wort (hypericum perforatum), an herbal product sold as a dietary supplement, or products containing St. John's wort. Talk with your doctor if you are taking or planning to

take St. John's wort. Taking St. John's wort may decrease KALETRA levels and lead to increased viral load and possible resistance to KALETRA or cross-resistance to other anti-HIV medicines.

- Do not take KALETRA with the cholesterol-lowering medicines Mevacor® (lovastatin) or Zocor® (simvastatin) because of possible serious reactions. There is also an increased risk of drug interactions between KALETRA and Lipitor® (atorvastatin) and Baycol® (cerivastatin); talk to your doctor before you take any of these cholesterol-reducing medicines with KALETRA.

Medicines that require dosage adjustments:

It is possible that your doctor may need to increase or decrease the dose of other medicines when you are also taking KALETRA. Remember to tell your doctor all medicines you are taking or plan to take.

Before you take Viagra® (sildenafil) with KALETRA, talk to your doctor about problems these two medicines can cause when taken together. You may get increased side effects of VIAGRA, such as low blood pressure, vision changes, and penis erection lasting more than 4 hours. If an erection lasts longer than 4 hours, get medical help right away to avoid permanent damage to your penis. Your doctor can explain these symptoms to you.

- If you are taking oral contraceptives ("the pill") to prevent pregnancy, you should use an additional or different type of contraception since KALETRA may reduce the effectiveness of oral contraceptives.
- Efavirenz (Sustiva™) or nevirapine (Viramune®) may lower the amount of KALETRA in your blood. Your doctor may increase your dose of KALETRA if you are also taking efavirenz or nevirapine.
- If you are taking Mycobutin® (rifabutin), your doctor will lower the dose of Mycobutin.
- A change in therapy should be considered if you are taking KALETRA with:
 - Phenobarbital
 - Phenytoin (Dilantin® and others)
 - Carbamazepine (Tegretol® and others)These medicines may lower the amount of KALETRA in your blood and make it less effective.
- Other Special Considerations:
 - KALETRA oral solution contains alcohol. Talk with your doctor if you are taking or planning to take metronidazole or disulfiram. Severe nausea and vomiting can occur.
- If you are taking both didanosine (Videx®) and KALETRA:
 - Didanosine (Videx®) should be taken one hour before or two hours after KALETRA.

What are the possible side effects of KALETRA?

- This list of side effects is not complete. If you have questions about side effects, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist. You should report any new or continuing symptoms to your doctor right away. Your doctor may be able to help you manage these side effects.
- The most commonly reported side effects of moderate severity that are thought to be drug related are: abnormal stools (bowel movements), diarrhea, feeling weak/tired, headache, and nausea. Children taking KALETRA may sometimes get a skin rash.
- Blood tests in patients taking KALETRA may show possible liver problems. People with liver disease such as Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C who take KALETRA may have worsening liver disease. Liver problems including death have occurred in patients taking KALETRA. In studies, it is unclear if KALETRA caused these liver problems because some patients had other illnesses or were taking other medicines.
- Some patients taking KALETRA can develop serious problems with their pancreas (pancreatitis), which may cause death. You have a higher chance of having pancreatitis if you have had it before. Tell your doctor if you have nausea, vomiting, or abdominal pain. These may be signs of pancreatitis.
- Some patients have large increases in triglycerides and cholesterol. The long-term chance of getting complications such as heart attacks or stroke due to increases in triglycerides and cholesterol caused by protease inhibitors is not known at this time.
- Diabetes and high blood sugar (hyperglycemia) occur in patients taking protease inhibitors such as KALETRA. Some patients had diabetes before starting protease inhibitors, others did not. Some patients need changes in their diabetes medicine. Others needed new diabetes medicine.
- Changes in body fat happen in some patients getting anti-HIV medicines. These changes may include increased fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast and abdomen (stomach area). Loss of fat from the face, legs, and arms may also happen. The cause and long-term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.
- Some patients with hemophilia have increased bleeding with protease inhibitors.
- There have been other side effects in patients taking KALETRA. However, these side effects may have been due to other medicines that patients were taking or to the illness itself. Some of these side effects can be serious.

What should I tell my doctor before taking KALETRA?

- If you are pregnant or planning to become pregnant: The effects of KALETRA on pregnant women or their unborn babies are not known.
- If you are breast-feeding: Do not breast-feed if you are taking KALETRA. You should not breast-feed if you have HIV. If you are a woman who has or will have a baby, talk with your doctor about the best way to feed your baby. You should be aware that if your baby does not already have HIV, there is a chance that HIV can be transmitted through breast-feeding.
- If you have liver problems: If you have liver problems or are infected with Hepatitis B or Hepatitis C, you should tell your doctor before taking KALETRA.
- If you have diabetes: Some people taking protease inhibitors develop new or more serious diabetes or high blood sugar. Tell your doctor if you have diabetes or an increase in thirst or frequent urination.
- If you have hemophilia: Patients taking KALETRA may have increased bleeding.

How do I store KALETRA?

- Keep KALETRA and all other medicines out of the reach of children.
 - Refrigerated KALETRA capsules and oral solution remain stable until the expiration date printed on the label. If stored at room temperature up to 77°F (25°C), KALETRA capsules and oral solution should be used within 2 months.
 - Avoid exposure to excessive heat.
- Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. Be sure that if you throw any medicine away, it is out of the reach of children.

General advice about prescription medicines:

Talk to your doctor or other health care provider if you have any questions about this medicine or your condition. Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Patient Information Leaflet. If you have any concerns about this medicine, ask your doctor. Your doctor or pharmacist can give you information about this medicine that was written for health care professionals. Do not use this medicine for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not share this medicine with other people.

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Trouble in Dallas, New York for Boy Scouts

by Bob Roehr

Are the Boy Scouts of America cooking the books? An explosive article in the *Dallas Morning News* of February 25 headlined a 25 percent decline in membership in the regional council from what has been claimed. The news account was based on internal documents leaked to the paper that are tied to an ongoing mail fraud investigation of the council by the U.S. Postal Service.

The Circle Ten Council, covering 11 counties in the Dallas area, until recently claimed to be the fifth largest in the nation serving about 74,000 traditional scouts. The mail fraud investigation centers on inflating that figure with "ghost scouts," primarily in lower income and minority neighborhoods. The leaked documents revise membership figures downward by nearly a quarter.

In a statement released February 22, Circle Ten acknowledged dramatic losses in membership and attributed it in part to negative publicity associated with the U.S. Supreme Court decision last June that allowed the BSA to exclude gays. Council president Bobby Lyle said, "Unfortunately, we're in a period where Scout numbers are suffering across the country from the national policy."

That statement is in direct contradiction to the spin being put

out by BSA national headquarters a few miles down the road in Irving, Texas. National spokesman Gregg Shields claims that there has been little fallout from their anti-gay policy, and maintains that national membership grew by nearly 1 percent last year.

Regardless of what the figures were last year, many signs point to a decline in membership in the current and ensuing years. These include the national expulsion of scout troops in Oak Park, Illinois, the decision by Reform Judaism to disassociate themselves from sponsorship of scouting activities, similar actions by scores of local government agencies, and individual acts of conscience across the nation.

The United Way of Metropolitan Dallas has taken the mail fraud investigation very seriously and is conducting its own audit of membership numbers claimed by Council Ten. It could have an impact on the distribution of funds to the organization.

Problems in New York

The New York City Council is threatening to pull all support from the Boy Scouts for its anti-gay policies. It held a committee hearing on February 26 to grill leaders of the Greater New York Councils, BSA, which runs programs for about 130,000 youth in the region.

The New York BSA leaders called the national policy "repugnant" and "stupid." It joined other

councils in Rhode Island, Minnesota, and California in calling on the national headquarters to renounce the policy.

"We would like to be an agent of change," said Deryck A. Palmer, a local BSA official, in pleading for six months in which to try to change the national position. He said the local governing board recently voted overwhelmingly to take the action.

Michael O'Connor, a member of the NYC board and a former city transit police chief, called the BSA national board "a bunch of rednecks from Texas." His other colleagues at the public meeting were more diplomatic.

"We need a policy that is acceptable for all New Yorkers and a policy that is completely free of discrimination," said Daniel R. Gasparo, chief executive of the New York Councils. There were hints that if the national did not change its policy, the local councils would withdraw from affiliation with that body.

Manhattan City Councilman Philip Reed, who is openly gay, told the *New York Times* that he sensed "a real sincerity on their part to resolve this." The committee agreed to give local Scout leaders four months to try to persuade the national organization to change its policy.

BSA officials at the national headquarters are hunkering down and not talking with the media. ▼

Supreme Court hems in ADA

by Bob Roehr

The Americans with Disabilities Act does not allow employees to sue state governments for damages, said the U.S. Supreme Court on February 21. However, the decision does not affect the ability to sue for corrective action. The immediate practical impact is limited but some observers fear that it points toward further restrictions by the court in future cases.

In *Alabama v. Garrett*, nurse Patricia Garrett was assigned a lower paying job after returning from treatment for breast cancer. She sued for damages in federal court, losing initially and winning on appeal before the matter headed to the Supreme Court.

The matter has been a contentious one, with 14 states taking the unusual step of filing a brief in support of Garrett, arguing that disabled workers should indeed have the right to sue for damages from states under federal law.

The 5-to-4 majority opinion written by Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist found that the legislative record did not establish a

pattern of irrational behavior in these matters by states that justified overriding their sovereign immunity. It continued a pattern of the five-member majority of reining in federal jurisdiction.

The rationale prompted a vigorous rebuke in the minority opinion written by Justice Stephen G. Breyer. He was chief counsel to the Senate Judiciary Committee when it passed the ADA. "Congress compiled a vast legislative record documenting massive, society-wide discrimination" against persons with disabilities," said Breyer.

The Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund filed an amicus brief in support of Garrett, and was disappointed with the ruling. "While this is a serious blow to the power of the ADA, it is far from fatal, and those with disabilities are far from powerless," said Catherine A. Hanssens, director of Lambda's AIDS Project.

"States' legal obligations under the ADA have not changed, and the federal government retains the ability and responsibility to pursue state discriminators," she said.

Lambda's legal director Ruth E. Harlow said, "The court has exceeded its power and second-

guessed Congress' determination that a broad range of remedies are necessary to end entrenched disability discrimination by the states."

"We sometimes tend to fixate on the ADA and federal law as if it is the end-all and be-all," said Arthur Leonard, a professor at the New York Law School and editor of *Lesbian/Gay Law Notes*. He said there is "a robust body of case law protecting people with HIV/AIDS under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act," that preceded the ADA and applies to agencies receiving federal money.

Leonard added, "It is important to remember that laws in effect in almost every state forbid disability discrimination by the state government in its employment practices and public services." He suggested that federal court may not always be the best place to file a disability claim.

The *New York Times* editorialized that the court had usurped congressional power. The *Washington Post* wrote, "In order to protect the states against disability discrimination suits, the court had to shackle further the federal power to ensure equal protection under law." ▼

Gay pastor voted out of Dallas church

by Ed Walsh

The former Mill Valley minister who claimed to have lost his memory 17 years ago after a violent attack, has been voted out of the predominately gay church in Dallas where he was recently hired as pastor.

James Simmons asked for the vote and announced his resignation after he failed to garner two-thirds of the congregation's confidence. Of the 182 people who cast their ballots last Friday, February 23, 106 voted that they wanted to keep him as their pastor. That was just 15 votes shy of the 121 votes needed.

White Rock Community Church spokesman, Matt McQueen, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that many in the congregation voted against Simmons because of the tremendous amount of press attention focused on the church. Simmons told reporters after the vote that many in the congrega-

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CAPE's first awards dinner offers hope

by Nicole Russell

A February 24 awards dinner hosted by California Alliance for Pride and Equality, the two and a half year old statewide LGBT lobbying organization, raised over \$60,000 and hopes that a gay legislative agenda might pass this year.

Aside from being a political pep rally, the 350 supporters who filled the Fairmont Miramar Hotel in Santa Monica also came to honor the night's "CAPE Crusaders" — actress/activist Judith Light, Tanqueray's AIDS-RidesUSA and breast cancer fundraiser Dan Pallotta, family law attorney Roberta Bennett, Wells Fargo Foundation Vice President Jonathan Weedman, and United Farm Workers co-founder Dolores Huerta. The dinner was emceed by state Senator Sheila James Kuehl (D-Los Angeles), who praised CAPE and the work of Executive Director Jean Harris and lobbyist Eric Astacaa. Kuehl also read a laudatory message from Assemblywoman Carole Migden (D-San Francisco), who was unable to attend the event.

San Diego's freshman Assemblywoman Christine Kehoe (D) defied the rain to attend. "This organization is so important. It's the one organization that is lobbying statewide for our issues so it's critical that we give our support," Kehoe said in a quick interview. "There's a good chance a domestic partner package will pass. We're working for full equality for gays and lesbians. The process is to always keep pushing and putting our measures on the table. We have to look for the positive in all this. I think we will have gay marriage — but first there's the domestic partnership package."

(At a news conference on Thursday, West Hollywood Assemblyman Paul Koretz (D) will introduce his civil unions bill, AB1338, co-authored by Assemblymembers Jackie Goldberg, Migden, and Herb Wesson and state Senator Kuehl. CAPE's other priorities are a gender-identity bill and a second parent adoption bill.)

To much fanfare, Harris launched a new campaign effort entitled "Raise a Million Voices," designed to sign up CAPE supporters at both the individual and organizational level. The campaign also is intended to increase CAPE's budget to \$1 million (Empire State, New York's lobbying group, has a budget of \$1.8 million). Harris also announced the launch of a Web site (www.raiseamillionvoices.org), expected to be completed in late



CAPE's Kathy Levinson

March, enabling visitors to sign up online. CAPE currently has over 200,000 members and claims to be the "largest, fastest growing statewide LGBT organization in the country."

Harris said CAPE has a four point "action focus:" 1) to educate activists through newsletters and e-mail action alerts about upcoming legislation and recommended action; 2) to develop a political action component that would cultivate LGBT candidates and endorse those seeking election to statewide office; 3) to stay "campaign ready" and prepared to fight anti-gay statewide measures; and 4) to develop a 501(c)(3) education arm to proactively educate and organize voters about laws affecting LGBT people. A "centerpiece" of the education effort is the Fair Workplace Project to encourage businesses to be nondiscriminatory.

Investor Anita May Rosenstein launched the fundraising drive by creating and underwriting the promotional "Raise a Million Voices" campaign and pledging \$5,000. Dinner co-chair David Bohnett and new board co-chair Kathy Levinson gave \$10,000 each; Bank of America and the Lear Family Foundation pledged \$5,000 each; and several individuals gave \$1,000.

Soaring speeches

But the well-produced two and a half hour awards ceremony was elevated from the usual dinner event by the caliber of speeches, some homey, some soaring. Kuehl's positive keynote set the tone, as did Weedman's pledge that Wells Fargo will always be there to help. San Diego CAPE board co-chair Nicole Murray-Rameriz introduced Juanita Chavez, who introduced "my wife" Shannon Tool and accepted the award on behalf of her ill mother, Dolores Huerta. David Abbitt and Allison Bennett-Rotter introduced their mother, longtime ac-

tivist Roberta Bennett, who spoke from her heart about her late friends upon whose shoulders the community now stands, her partner Robin, her children, and her grandchildren Samatha, 5, and Madison, 3, whom she brought to the stage. Daughter Christina could not attend, Bennett said, because she's in Seattle visiting the two gay men for whom she is bearing twins as a surrogate mother.

But it was the speeches by Light that left the audience stunned with inspiration.

Light noted her passage from a "shamefully romantic and idealistic dreamer" to someone who was "appalled" to discover with the advent of the AIDS epidemic that "this country is not as compassionate as it pretends to be." But as the gay community "turned anger into determination and anguish into creativity," gays became her role models and mentors. "You are here, in fact, to lead," she said, "to show us another way." The straight world has become "so brainwashed," never more startling than in its reaction to gays, believing that hate is Christian and passing legislation and policies that "require deception." The straight world "is not aware of how deeply pathological it is." But gays are uniquely situated to "create the shift in the wind" to answer prayers for truth and change. "We need you."

Pallotta talked about his profound identification "with the vision of America." As a teenager he dreamed of being president of the United States. But that dream died when he discovered he was gay and "an outsider in my own country." The 23 million infected with AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa "are outcasts and strangers too," he said. "What has distinguished the gay and lesbian community over the last 20 years is the way that we have stood for the American dream in the age of AIDS. ... We must bring the same passion to the AIDS epidemic in Africa that we brought to the AIDS epidemic in our backyards. We must demonstrate to America that our AIDS organizing was not an act of self-involvement, but a common and decent expression of human kindness, and one that has no bounds and knows no borders. ... I am talking about a radical departure from marginalizing ourselves by standing only in the narrowness of our own issues, to expanding ourselves. ... Let us be the keepers of the flame of Martin Luther King and Robert Kennedy. Let us give the children a reason, once again, to be excited, about the idea, of America." ▼

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Peripheral neuropathy and HIV

by Bob Roehr

Peripheral neuropathy is a dying back of nerve fibers, particularly in the extremities of feet, legs, and hands. Often it is associated with diabetes. Autopsies have shown that it is present in virtually all those with advanced HIV disease, though only about 30 percent will report the sensory "pins and needles" feeling associated with this nerve injury.

Justin McArthur, a leading figure in the study of neurological aspects of HIV infection and its treatment, presented work being done at Johns Hopkins University and elsewhere to attendees of the eighth annual Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections held last month in Chicago.

McArthur said that HIV disease itself can produce neuropathy. "The most important single predictive risk factor for developing HIV sensory neuropathy is viral load," he said. About a quarter of those with a high viral load set point will develop sensory neuropathy over a 10-year period. Older age, wasting, lower CD4 count, and the presence of other neuropathy producing conditions such as diabetes also increase the likelihood of developing this problem.

McArthur has developed a skin punch biopsy that is less invasive than older techniques of measuring nerve dysfunction. It can "offer an important window into the structure and damage" of neuropathy. Through a series of slides, he showed macrophage activation around swollen nerve fibers. Over

a short period of time the fibers degenerate, then disappear.

He drew upon studies that have associated increased levels of tumor necrosis factor-alpha (TNF- α) in the brain with dementia, and he speculated that increased production of TNF- α and other inflammatory cytokines by macrophages is responsible for nerve death.

Mitochondrial toxicity

McArthur separated out toxicity associated with the "d" drugs (didanosine [ddI], stavudine [d4T], and zalcitabine [ddC]) that have similar overlapping neuropathic characteristics. Drug induced neuropathy may reverse when the regimen is changed, though nerve regeneration is a slow process.

"Dideoxynucleoside [the 'd' drugs] toxicity is much more common in patients who have distal [distant] neuropathy from diabetes or cancer chemotherapy.

It seems to be cumulative or possibly even multiple with double dideoxynucleoside regimens," he said (see chart below). Acute sensory neuropathy also has been linked to lactic acidosis and should be seen as a warning sign to that life-threatening condition.

Most researchers and clinicians believe that the "d" drugs inhibit mitochondrial DNA replication, said McArthur. There is a general correlation that the more potent the drug, the more likely it is to produce greater neuropathy in a greater percentage of patients.

Researchers at Johns Hopkins have tried to find an animal model of neuropathy. But rats dosed with high levels of "d" drugs did not show any sign of nerve damage as is seen in humans. So they developed a laboratory nerve tissue culture to test toxicity.

"Within three hours of exposure to ddC there is extensive pruning" of the nerve tissue cul-

ture, mimicking what McArthur has seen in patient skin biopsies. He tried different concentrations of different antiretroviral drugs. Far away the most toxic was ddC, while ddI and d4T showed toxicity only at higher concentrations. "With AZT there is minimal effect on neuron outgrowth."

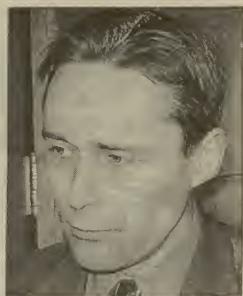
In tissue cultures, "one can apparently rescue the neurons by using pyruvate and uridine," he said. That opens the possibility of at least stabilizing further decline in nerve cells and perhaps even stimulating their re-growth.

Treatments and research

Amitriptyline and topical lidocaine have shown "no significant effect on neuropathic pain" in clinical trials. Lamotrigine, a new anticonvulsant agent, "showed a very significant effect on neuropathic pain" in data published last year. Nerve growth factor showed similar impressive results "but industry support is not there" for additional trials.

Nerve regeneration is measured in months or years rather than weeks, said McArthur, which increases the difficulty and cost of clinical trials. Furthermore, existing pain outcome measures "are relatively crude and require a large sample size." They are geared more toward the larger central nervous system rather than the smaller peripheral nerves where HIV-related neuropathy tends to occur.

He presented a model "to rapidly test regenerative agents" for sensory neuropathy. Capsaicin, an extract of red pepper, is applied to a small portion of skin



Justin McArthur

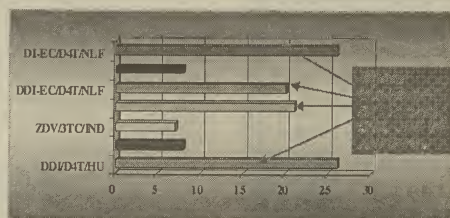
for two days to destroy nerve fibers there. The fibers begin to regrow within two weeks and normal density is restored within about 60 days. Diabetic patients show a much slower re-growth of nerve fibers. Study has begun in patients with HIV-related and drug-related neuropathy.

McArthur believes the model can be used to measure if particular trial interventions speed up the re-growth of peripheral nerve fibers and if so, by how much. This will allow chemical agents to be tested for effect more quickly and at reduced cost.

He pushed for fast track trials of regenerative agents such as timcodar, a neurophilin "which acts downstream of nerve growth factor to stimulate nerve fiber repair."

McArthur also encouraged physicians to "improve their screening techniques" for neuropathy by using both symptom questionnaires and techniques such as skin biopsy, particularly with patients on the "d" drugs. Presently the best way to deal with neuropathy is to remove those drugs that may be causing or worsening the problem. ▼

Incidence of neuropathy with ddX regimens



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Carmichael

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Carmichael, who while on the airplane in Dallas, got into an argument with a passenger who was occupying a seat Carmichael had been told was reserved for his ill brother. During a scuffle after Carmichael got off the plane, he fell on a police officer, who reported that he suffered an injury as a result. During last week's hearing, however, Carmichael raised questions over how the officer was injured, and presented evidence that contradicted the prosecution's case.

Additionally, Carmichael told the judge, he believes the case against him was trumped up because he is gay and HIV-positive. Following the incident at the airport, Carmichael was transported to Valley Medical Center, where he told the attending physician about his HIV status. While there, Carmichael said, officers apparently overheard his conversation and then Carmichael said he was forcibly held him down while a blood sample was taken without his consent.

"This case is about AIDS-pho-

bia," Carmichael told the judge. "No one had any complaint until I told the doctor I'm HIV-positive. I maintain the officers perjured themselves."

Carmichael testified that his own medical records show that at the time of his arrest he had no scratches or evidence of any cuts, abrasions, or lacerations.

During the hearing the prosecutor, Deputy District Attorney David Soares, didn't say much, but the judge indicated he can respond when the case resumes next week.

In an interview Tuesday, February 27 with the *Bay Area Reporter*, Soares said that the case was not brought against Carmichael because of his HIV status. Soares said he has personally been affected by the AIDS epidemic, and said he had someone he considered a friend die of the disease.

Have injury, will travel

Perhaps the most significant evidence Carmichael presented in his defense surrounded the multiple reports of the injury sustained by the police officer. What was originally reported by prosecutors to be a broken arm turned out to

be a sprain, Carmichael testified, who added that he believes even that diagnosis is questionable.

According to medical records Carmichael obtained through discovery, the officer initially was treated for a sprained wrist. That became a sprained arm, which later became a sprained forearm, which became a sprained upper elbow, which became a possible forearm sprain or stress, Carmichael told the judge.

"He testified he was in such extreme pain he couldn't drive," said Carmichael, who maintained that the officer did not suffer an injury, and if he was hurt, the injury occurred as he tried to lift Carmichael when he was in a wheelchair en route from the airport to Valley Medical Center — not when Carmichael fell on him because he was caught off balance by officers.

Soares disputed Carmichael's version of events, and maintained the officer did suffer a sprain. During the trial, Soares said, evidence was presented that showed the officer was "clearly injured."

Maintaining he had ineffective counsel, Carmichael — who has been in jail since his arrest six months ago — testified that his former attorney, public defender Ed Nino, failed to cross-examine witnesses during his trial. The officer who was allegedly injured, Carmichael said, was able to throw some car keys 60 feet "with a broken arm" and drive back to the police station, where he changed clothes. None of that was mentioned during the trial, Carmichael said.

"Mr. Nino never grasped my case and totally sabotaged my defense," Carmichael said.

Indeed, Carmichael said that during his trial, Nino didn't ask

him any questions and instead for some inexplicable reason, asked him to remove his jacket and shirt, after which the defense rested. Nino appeared before the judge last Friday to explain why some photographs and Carmichael's social history were not turned over to him. Nino told the judge that copies of the photos had been given to Carmichael; Carmichael waved some paper copies of the photos, which were of such poor quality that he said Nino could have them back. The pictures, Carmichael said, would have shown that the airport jetway was carpeted, not concrete as was maintained during the trial.

During his trial, Carmichael told the judge, prosecutors brought out some of his prior history, including an incident in 1993. Prosecutors maintained that Carmichael voiced homicidal intent during that incident, but the California Highway Patrol report presented a different picture. For some reason, prosecutors could not find that report, but Carmichael had it last week and entered it as evidence.

"I did not voice homicidal intent," said Carmichael.

Soares told the B.A.R. that he had a court officer look for that report, but that the CHP had purged it from their files. He said that the copy of the report Carmichael presented came from the Orange County Public Defender's office, to which he did not have had access. ▼

Contributions to Brian Carmichael's legal defense fund can be sent to Bruce Nickerson, 231 Manor Drive, San Carlos, CA 94070.

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HIV test

◀ page 3

"Police already shake down our outreach workers on the street, who hold information about people's drug use, for instance. As it stands, our workers would go to jail before they gave up identities, but this new form puts them and their clients at great danger," said Podzin.

Another Berkeley Free Clinic worker said that the additional information made it easy for leaks at the local level.

"Before the form, all I had to do to not know someone's business was to make sure I didn't see their testing number," he said. "Now the temptation is greater for a worker. If someone you know comes in and you know their date of birth or ZIP code, you could easily match up a test result with an identity."

There is also a section on the form that asks how a person was referred to HIV testing. If that person checks the box that he or she came on the advice of an STD

clinic, that gives yet another trail of information useful in determining identity.

The state forms are in use throughout California; a different and more extensive form is in use in San Francisco, issued through the Department of Public Health. According to the concerned activists, the San Francisco form — which asks for age, race, birth date, the first and last letter of the last name as well as the number of letters in the last name and the first letter of the mother's maiden name (in addition to documenting behavior such as unsafe sex and drug use) — may soon be in use at many testing sites throughout the city, like the AIDS Health Project run through the University of California, San Francisco (calls to AHP to confirm this were not returned).

To the activists who are raising objections, their reasons for doing so are simple. Anonymous testing should be separate from testing systems set up to collect identifying data. The word anonymous, they say, should continue to mean anonymous. ▼

Ashcroft

◀ page 1

Senate this year. But the longer-term prospects for passing the House and having it signed by the president will depend on a broader strategy.

He said, "If everybody is brought in early in a negotiation like this, and if each side is convinced that you respect them and their perspective, and you are out for a win-win for everybody, I think you can move a lot. But if the perception is that you are doing this to force me to do something that I don't want to do, guess

what, I'm going to show you."

Tafel believes that "part of the strategy of the gay groups in Texas [on moving hate crimes legislation] was to embarrass Bush." On that count it succeeded, but it did not result in the legislation being enacted. He is afraid that the same strategy might play out at the national level.

But Tafel is encouraged by the fact that the Human Rights Campaign has not yet pushed for the formal introduction of either hate crimes or employment non-discrimination legislation. That may improve the odds of creating a process and negotiating language where the administration feels it has a stake in passage. ▼

OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization - and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

Robert Adam Howard

August 23, 1979 — January 1, 2001



Adam was born on August 23, 1979 in Phoenix, Arizona. He attended school there. In early 1999, he moved into his father's home in Phoenix to care for him during his terminal illness. After his father's death in July 1999, he moved to San Francisco. Adam and his life partner John Hill lived in San Francisco, and they maintained an apartment in Santa Monica, where they spent many happy times.

Adam's goal was to become a fashion designer and to have his own line of clothing. He was scheduled to commence school at the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising in San Francisco on January 2, 2001.

He had gone to visit his mother and siblings in Salt Lake City, Utah. On New Year's Eve, he and his sister were stopped by police in their car, while they were on their way home. Unfortunately, in a traffic stop that went awry, Adam was shot and killed by police. A homicide investigation is in progress.

A Mormon service, arranged by his mother, took place on January 9, 2001. He was interred at City of Mesa Cemetery in Mesa, Arizona. On January 11, 2001, the Reverend Lloyd G. Tupper

conducted a universal service at Adam's grave site. In attendance were his life partner John and friends.

In addition to his life partner John, he leaves his mother Christine, his brother Seth, his sisters Becky and Melissa, and his many dear friends.

A memorial service will be conducted at Adam and John's home on Sunday, March 18, 2001. For information, contact Jeff Bryant at (415) 252-1382.

He was a sweet, dear spirit, who lighted up the world of those who loved him.

Michael Russell Sparks ("Sparky")



Michael Russell Sparks, son of Russell and Marjorie Sparks, was born August 8, 1954, in Paintsville, Kentucky, and departed this life at St. Mary's Hospital in San Francisco, California on January

14, 2001, at the age of 46. He is survived by his parents, his brother and sister-in-law, Danny and Linda Sparks and their two daughters.

Michael moved to San Francisco in 1977, where he was employed for more than 20 years in the laboratory of St. Mary's Hospital. He leaves behind many good friends and co-workers at St. Mary's, who valued his open and loving heart and professional approach to his work. Michael loved flowers, music, art, people and made friends easily. He also loved to travel, especially his trips to Paris. Michael was a true "citizen of the world," and he will be sadly missed by all who knew and loved him.

I know that big beautiful smile must be lighting up all God's Heaven, as it did for us here on Earth.

So Sparkle on, my sweet friend, and "Sparkle Plenty!"

Bill Walden

1950 — 2001



William Webster Walden died Tuesday, February 6 in Talent, Oregon where he was living with his mother, Zella May Walden. He was born August 22, 1950 in Seligman,

Missouri. His father, Emmett H. Walden, passed away October 15, 1993.

Bill will be remembered by many in San Francisco as a founding member of the California Eagles Motorcycle Club which was formed in 1984. He served with great distinction as its President in 1987, 1992 and 1993, and was granted Honorary Membership in 1994. Bill was a strong supporter of the South-of-Market leather community and its clubs, and is greatly missed.

Bill had a great interest in the Titanic disaster, and was a member of the Titanic Historical Society. Other hobbies included models, gardening, computers, and cats.

He was a Computer Programmer/Analyst at Mare Island Naval Shipyard and Concord Naval Weapons Station until February 1996.

Bill is also survived by his sister Sandra Walden of Phoenix, Oregon; brother Dale Walden of Portland, Oregon; nieces Nichole Toney of Phoenix, Oregon and Colleen Gunn of Sacramento, California; nephew Greg Walden of Vancouver, Washington; grandnephew Austin Toney of Phoenix, Oregon; and grandniece Baylee Toney of Phoenix, Oregon.

A celebration of Bill's time with us will be held Saturday, March 3 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Eagle Tavern.

Robert Victor Wells

1962 — 2001



Requiescat in Pace

Victor died unexpectedly from a stroke on Thursday morning, February 8. Widely loved, he will be greatly missed. A memorial celebration will be held this weekend to honor his life.

Victor was an avid collector, surrounding himself with treasures from large to small. However, it is the intangible gifts he shared with us that will live on in our hearts and memories. Through these many gifts we can glimpse the wisdom and grace of his unique spirit.

Those of us close to Victor could see that he had come home, arriving at a place of contentment and peace after a long journey.

Please call (415) 708-0026 for further information.



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Berkeley

◀ page 1

ed that the cost to businesses covered would match anticipated enrollment rates of 1/2 to 3 percent, based on reports from elsewhere, including Los Angeles and Seattle. The ordinance is modeled largely on San Francisco's.

The city manager's office has estimated that the cost - if every contracting firm passed on increases to the city of Berkeley - could run from \$30,000 to \$300,000.

Kamlarz said Berkeley has stressed educating business and found that anxiety over the legislation "decreased dramatically" through discussions via local focus groups for commercial and nonprofit firms.

After passage of its ordinance, San Francisco dropped contracts with some firms, including office suppliers and construction contractors, Kamlarz noted. Both of-

ficials said it was important to work with local unions as well as business management.

A city survey of 474 employers in Berkeley with contracts of \$25,000 or more drew 176 responses, Kamlarz said. About 47 percent offered no domestic partner benefits, 29 percent offered

businesses," he said, because commercial businesses generally provide benefits under the existing human rights screening process.

"For some nonprofits with [city] contracts, we might decide to increase grants" to offset some of the burden, the council member added. "It's a morally preferable thing

Kamlarz said Berkeley has ... found that anxiety over the legislation "decreased dramatically."

them to both spouses and partners, and 24 percent to spouses only.

Around 75 percent of responding firms said their DP policies conformed with existing requirements.

Worthington, who has long pressed for the legislation, said nonprofits probably face the strongest impact. "We think it's going to affect more nonprofits than for-profit

to do ... nonprofits will be able to function, and we can assist them."

In 1984, the Berkeley City Council adopted a policy extending employee benefits to domestic partners. In 1991, the council broadened the policy beyond city employees, offering couples the option of registering as domestic partners. ▼

Gay pastor

◀ page 17

tion may have been concerned that the media distraction would continue.

"I think some are also concerned about the future months," Simmons said. "They want to give me some time to actually get to know myself and my family. So some is concern for myself as well."

Simmons, 49, gave his last sermon on Sunday, February 25. He bought a house in Dallas and said he would continue to attend the church as a member. Simmons

added that he would continue to work with his family and physicians to regain his memory.

The church hired Simmons as its pastor in December. After his first sermon, someone in the congregation recognized him as Barre Cox, a man who disappeared more than 16 years ago.

At the time of his disappearance, Cox had recently begun a job as a youth minister for a prominent San Antonio church. He had a wife and 6-month-old daughter.

His car was found abandoned and ransacked. Searches turned up nothing and he was eventually de-

clared dead and assumed to have been the victim of violent crime.

After Simmons was recognized at White Rock, the church assisted him in reuniting with his family. He's since met with his family, wife, and teenage daughter, who continue to remain supportive of him.

Simmons is openly gay now and was well-known in San Francisco's religious gay community. Simmons lived in the Bay Area for 10 years. He resigned his job as the director of campus life at the Golden Gate Baptist Seminary in Mill Valley in December after getting the job offer in Dallas. ▼

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Der golem*

by Jim Provenzano

"Watching dot-coms crater has become a big spectator sport."
— John Feldcamp, CEO of Xlibris, a print-on-demand publisher, after announcing 30 layoffs.

Bill Goldberg was the most famous "sports entertainer" in the WCW before it faced enormous economic collapse at the end of the last century. His best-selling biography, written by his brother, was published by Crown Books, which faces bankruptcy. Jewels owed by Crown are many. With a claim of \$2.5 million, Koen Book Distributors heads the top 20 unsecured creditors of Crown Books, as listed in the company's Chapter 11 bankruptcy petition filed last month. Crown has more than 1,000 creditors, according to the filing.

Nevertheless, the Crown Books title linking IBM and the Nazis—*IBM and the Holocaust: The Strategic Alliance Between Nazi Germany and America's Most Powerful Corporation* by Edwin Black—was released last month, to great acclaim and little shock in certain sectors of the business world, including the White House.

In the SEC filing, Crown said it still had some problems with its "management information systems."

Guess they didn't use IBM.

Jackhammering

Excerpts from *I'm Next! The Strange Journey of America's Most Unlikely Superhero*, by Bill Goldberg, with Steve Goldberg, so you don't have to pay for it yourself to read the interesting bits, and since they didn't give me a free copy, even though you'd think they'd have a few free ones to spare, what with their problems and all:

p.8 "As bad as I felt emotionally, my balls still felt worse my penis was normal."

p.8 **GENITAL EXAMINATION** (after early sports entertainment injury): The penis is normal. The testes are bilaterally descended. There is a left testicular mass which according to the patient is varicocele which he has had as long as he can think back. In the right scrotal content there is a small soft mass at the posterior aspect of the testicle which is painful on palpitation. Also the patient reports pain on palpitation of the posterior aspect of the right testicle near the base of the penis."

p.29 "It sounds like a sex thing, but we never got it on, although I did pin him once or twice." — on his first pro coach, "Sarge" aka DeWayne Bruce.

p.45 "Of course now I have my back and everything (well almost everything), and I'm not a fruit, so whatever. I like fruit."

p.47 "My good buddy and human guinea pig" — of his friend Terry, on whom he perfected "The Spear" and "The Jackhammer."

p.81 References to tour bus bathrooms and "poop spray" pranks.

p.107 "Steiner had to pull my damn pants off in the hospital. I can't explain to you how much I love that guy. I would do anything for him." — on Rick Steiner.

p.98 "I'd love nothing more than to have a match with the Rock and Steve Austin. Hell, I'd like to wrestle both at the same time."

p.103 "To me, it is exhilarating to bleed. I just get off on it."

p.114 "He rubbed his bat on my chest for luck and lo and behold a few days later, he broke the record." — on unmarried baseball player Mark McGwire.

"I flew up in the air and I landed hard right on the head of my Johnson. Not that my dick was so long that I ran over it." — on a childhood biking accident.

"He was a big Norwegian with gigantic calves and huge balls." — on college chum Homer.

"If there ever was a Mount Gay, Key West was the right place for it." — on vacations.

"I vaguely remember swaying shirtless on a table, swigging from a bottle of Wild Turkey and erupting like Mount Vesuvius." — on college recruitment parties.

"For added measure, they'd seal our butt cracks with Icy Hot. All the time they were pissing and

"It sounds like a sex thing, but we never got it on, although I did pin him once or twice." — Bill Goldberg

spitting on us from the top levels of the dorm." — on not-gay fraternity activities.

"I rose out of the water with nothing on but my jock strap." — fishing technique.

"You'll always be a pussy-ass quarterback to me." — to Joe Theisman

"One guy was famous for his affinity for golden showers. Eric Neese (sic) our punter, was a Calvin Klein model and on *The Real World*." — on his unnamed and named former football teammates.

p.239 "God knows what was in the Cup, but it could have been piss and it still would have been good drinking from that thing. That was awesome, man, it was the Stanley Cup!" — on socializing with hockey players.

"Captain PissGums and the Dyke Pirates" — shipboard teenage comic book reading between the fraternal authors.

Spotted Phalaenopsis Bill Goldberg: name of a prize orchid raised by the author's mother.

"Bill and his multiple personalities reside in northern Georgia and southern California." — from the author bio.

For the kiddies, another Goldberg title, *Going for Goldberg*,



Topped! Bill shills. I'm thrilled.

which I did not read: Here is the "Book Description" from the publisher: "Get ready to rumble! The established and popular Dorling Kindersley Readers tag team with the WCW — one of the hottest leagues in professional sports — in this great addition to the series that is sure to get kids reading. *Going for Goldberg* is a Level 4 book intended for proficient readers and features stop-action photos and straight-action descriptions that capture the excitement of World Championship Wrestling. Lively age-appropriate text and an eye-catching layout

will hold a child's interest, while fostering early reading skills."

Was this content helpful to you? YES NO

Yes, in finally getting some "straight action" from Goldberg.

If even this seems too racy for the kids, try *Steve Austin: The Story of the Wrestler They Call 'Stone Cold'* (Chelsea House Publishers) which is aimed at 4-9 year olds, and parents who think that a beer-swilling, truck-crashing, trailer-exploding musclemen in tights is their kind of role model. There is a semi-revealing photo of Austin having his shorts yanked down by convicted boxer Mike Tyson.

Also in wrestling, and now outselling *I'm Next* and *Little Stevie* on Amazon.com, is *PINS*, the only gay title in that category. ▼

* In Jewish legend, an image or form that is given life through a magical formula. A golem frequently took the form of a robot, or automaton. In the Hebrew Bible (see Psalms 139:16) and in the Talmud, the term refers to an unformed substance. Its present meaning developed during the Middle Ages, when legends arose of wise men who could instill life in effigies by the use of a charm. The creatures were sometimes believed to offer special protection to Jews. The best-known of the golem stories concerned a Rabbi Löw of 16th century Prague, who was said to have created a golem that he used as his servant. *Der Golem* was also a successful silent horror film released in 1920.)

Team SF event tonight

Also in the promotional category: if you're one of those eager readers who grabs the paper fresh off the presses, stop by Harvey's (500 Castro at 18th) tonight (March 1, 6:30-ish) for the Team SF shindig, a pre-registration promotional event for Gay Games Sydney 2002. Choirs, auctions, food, singing, uniforms, runway! More info: www.teamsf.org.

BAY AREA REPORTER CLASSIFIEDS

LEGAL NOTICES

City and County of San Francisco Department of Human Services Request for Proposals #198

Dear Potential Applicant:

The City and County of San Francisco Department of Human Services announces its intent to seek proposals from agencies or organizations interested in contracting to provide In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) with regular supervision within and for the City and County of San Francisco. The IHSS Program provides assistance to those eligible aged, blind, and disabled individuals who are unable to remain safely in their own homes without this assistance. The winning respondent is responsible for providing regularly supervised IHSS providers to clients, as authorized by the Department.

The contract will be for the period from 7/1/01 to 6/30/04. The amount of the contract will be negotiated with the winning respondent.

An RFP packet may be picked up at SFDHS, 170 Otis, 8th Floor beginning Wednesday, February 14, 2001. Office hours are from 8AM to 5PM. The RFP packet and subsequent updates may also be downloaded from the City's website. Go to <http://civiccenter.ci.sf.ca.us/purchase/pbids.nsf> and click on the "Consultants and Professional Services" link.

The Respondents' Conference will be held on Thursday, February 22, 2001 at 2:30 PM at 170 Otis, Born Auditorium, SF, CA. For further information, call Joseph Huang at (415) 557-5181. Due date for responses is Monday, March 19, 2001 at 5PM.

City and County of San Francisco Department of Human Services Request for Proposals #199

Dear Potential Applicant:

The City and County of San Francisco Department of Human Services announces its intent to seek proposals from agencies or organizations interested in contracting to provide In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) with intense supervision within and for the City and County of San Francisco. The IHSS Program provides assistance to those eligible aged, blind, and disabled individuals who are unable to remain safely in their own homes without this assistance. The winning respondent is responsible for providing IHSS to those clients who are unable to hire and supervise their own providers and who have severe behavior problems which create barriers to effective service delivery. The winning respondent is responsible for providing intensively supervised IHSS providers to clients, as authorized by the Department.

The contract will be for the period from 7/1/01 to 6/30/04. The amount of the contract will be negotiated with the winning respondent.

An RFP packet may be picked up at SFDHS, 170 Otis, 8th Floor beginning Wednesday, February 14, 2001. Office hours are from 8AM to 5PM. The RFP packet and subsequent updates may also be downloaded from the City's website. Go to <http://civiccenter.ci.sf.ca.us/purchase/pbids.nsf> and click on the "Consultants and Professional Services" link.

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STATEMENT FILE NO. 246531

The following person(s) are doing business as: Pizza Organica & Brewing Company, 823 Clement Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94118. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Taylor Azevedo Maia, Rogerio Marina Silva and Gina Maria Gochez. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 01/20/01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/05/01.
FEB. 8, 15, 22, MAR 1, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 246499

The following person(s) are doing business as: Easy Fix, 584 Castro Street #302, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Bevin Jennings Shamel. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 02/05/01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/05/01.
FEB. 8, 15, 22, MAR 1, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 245807

The following person(s) are doing business as: California Rug Cleaners, 2507 Folsom Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by an individual signed David M. Jordan. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 10/15/89. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/04/01.
FEB. 8, 15, 22, MAR 1, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 246422

The following person(s) are doing business as: Quick-Come Transportation, 38 Pope Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94112. This business is conducted by an individual signed Michael K. Tam. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 01/31/01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/31/01.
FEB. 8, 15, 22, MAR 1, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 246470

The following person(s) are doing business as: Milkcrates Entertainment, Eighty-Eight Milkcrates Entertainment, 185 Hale Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94134. This business is conducted by an general partnership signed Franco Cruz Torres, Brandon Cruz, and Lisette Cruz. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/02/01.
FEB. 8, 15, 22, MAR 1, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 246571

The following person(s) are doing business as: Ascendant, 680 Lombard Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94133. This business is conducted by an individual signed Gregory B. Goodwin. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, February 6, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/06/01.
FEB. 15, 22, MAR 1, 8, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 246575

The following person(s) are doing business as: Joseph Nesci Technical Communications, 415 Noe Street #2, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Joseph F. Nesci. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, February 6, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/06/01.
FEB. 15, 22, MAR 1, 8, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 246581

The following person(s) are doing business as: Deng's Trucking, 34 Yarenes Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94135. This business is conducted by an individual signed Xue F. Deng. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, February 7, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/07/01.
FEB. 15, 22, MAR 1, 8, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 246605

The following person(s) are doing business as: Tre Media Group, 2037 Irving Street #214, San Francisco, Ca. 94122. This business is conducted by an individual signed Hao H. Duong. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, February 7, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/07/01.
FEB. 15, 22, MAR 1, 8, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 246504

The following person(s) are doing business as: Clever Cat Kids, 801 Kansas Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94107. This business is conducted by an individual signed Christin Schmidt. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/05/01.
FEB. 15, 22, MAR 1, 8, 2001

LEGAL NOTICES

STATEMENT FILE NO. 246559

The following person(s) are doing business as: Y.K. Cheung Photography, 2217 San Jose Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94112. This business is conducted by an individual signed Yiu Keung Cheung. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, February 6, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/06/01.
FEB. 15, 22, MAR 1, 8, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 245927

The following person(s) are doing business as: OutJock, 461 Castro Street, Suite #D, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Michael Castillo. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, January 01, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/10/01.
FEB. 15, 22, MAR 1, 8, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 246624

The following person(s) are doing business as: Flair SF, 1415 Folsom Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by an individual signed Andrea Rossing Johnson. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, February 08, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/08/01.
FEB. 15, 22, MAR 1, 8, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 246117

The following person(s) are doing business as: The Eighth Dimension, 2134 15th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Arik Metzger. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, January 18, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/18/01.
FEB. 15, 22, MAR 1, 8, 2001

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

To Whom It May Concern: The Name of the Application is: Brickhouse Cafe, LLC. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverages Control at: 185 Berry Street, suite #5600 San Francisco, Ca. 94107, to sell alcoholic beverages at: 426 Brannan Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94107. Type of license Applied for:
**41-ON SALE BEER AND WINE
EATING PLACE
FEB. 15, 22, MAR. 1, 2001**

STATEMENT FILE NO. 246627

The following person(s) are doing business as: TasteWine, 155 Eureka Street #2, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Jennifer Elias and Ray Johnson. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, February 08, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/08/01.
FEB. 22, MAR 1, 8, 15, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 246683

The following person(s) are doing business as: Chef Neil, 435 Utah Street #1, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by an individual signed Neil Dean Geller. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, February 04, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/12/01.
FEB. 22, MAR 1, 8, 15, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 246694

The following person(s) are doing business as: Look Of Love, Hair Nail Salon, 3903-18th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Giap, Pham- H. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, February 12, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/12/01.
FEB. 22, MAR 1, 8, 15, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 246707

The following person(s) are doing business as: Zhu's Gardening, 165 Girard Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94134. This business is conducted by an individual signed Hua Wan Zhu. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, February 13, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/13/01.
FEB. 22, MAR 1, 8, 15, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 246706

The following person(s) are doing business as: Let's Hardwood Floor Refinishing, 39 Edinburgh Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94112. This business is conducted by an individual signed 21 Ran Lei. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, February 13, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/13/01.
FEB. 22, MAR 1, 8, 15, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 246839

The following person(s) are doing business as: Geneva Pub, 1196 Geneva Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94112. This business is conducted by an individual signed Kil S. Kirkpatrick. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/20/01.
FEB. 22, MAR 1, 8, 15, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 246924

The following person(s) are doing business as: Destiny Transportation, 1035 Bush Street #14 San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by an individual signed Rick R. Zonne. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, February 22, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/22/01.
MAR 1, 8, 15, 22, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 246917

The following person(s) are doing business as: Y & S Flooring Company, 151 Lee Avenue San Francisco, Ca. 94112. This business is conducted by an individual signed Zhi Yong Zheng. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, February 22, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/22/01.
MAR 1, 8, 15, 22, 2001

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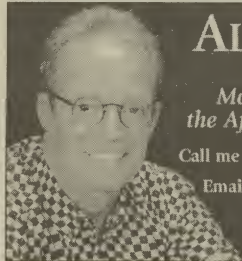


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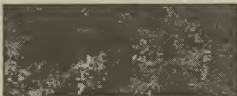
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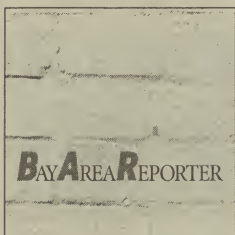
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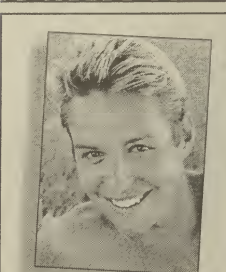
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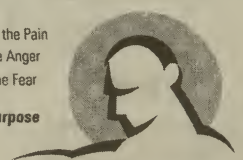
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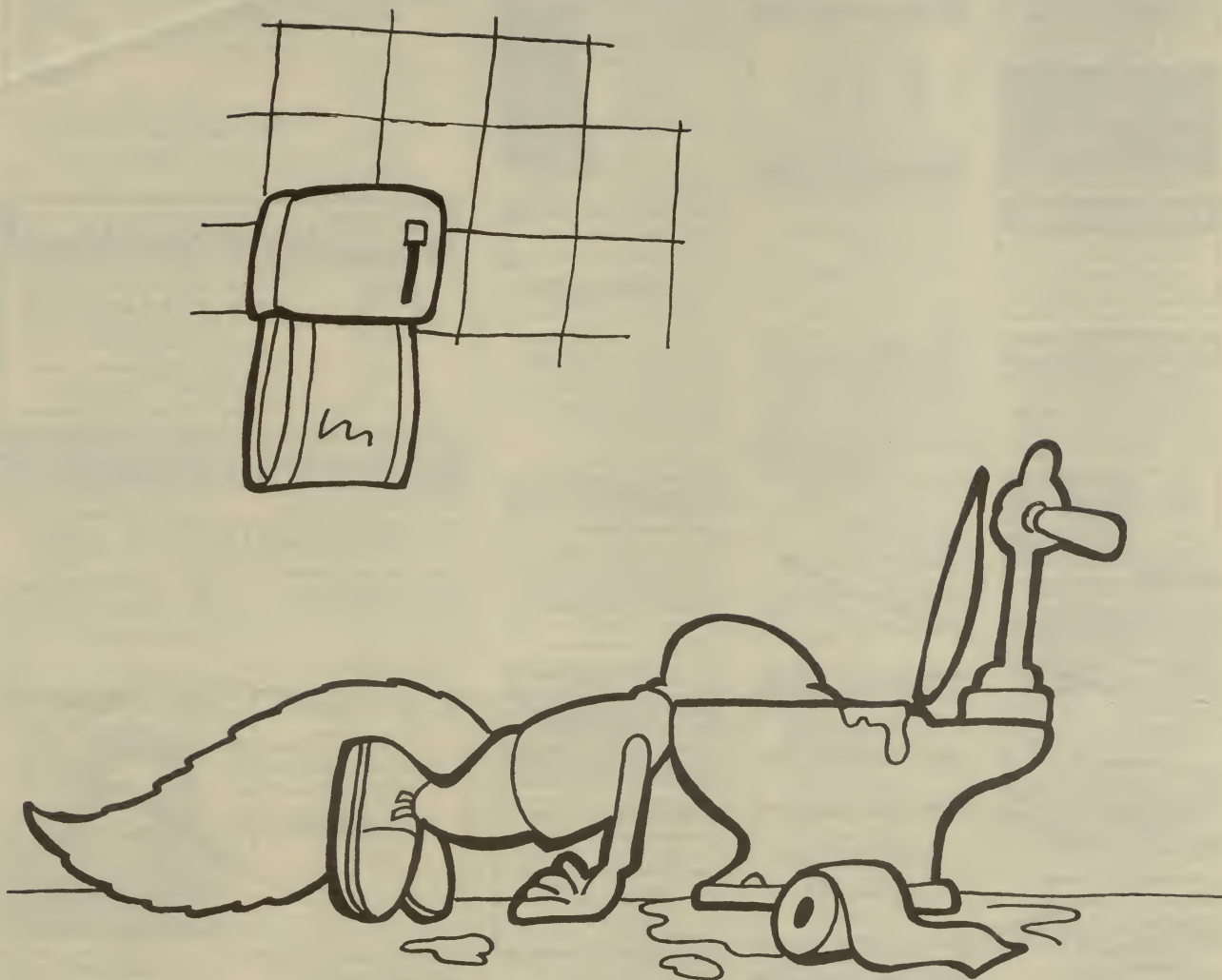
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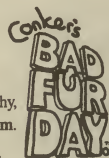


Shhh! Conker is taking a nap.



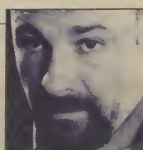
Rare® and Nintendo® have been very naughty. They put fuzzy little Conker in a raunchy, raunchy world. Now only people 17 and older can play. Find out why at www.conker.com.

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Looking for heat on cold, rainy nights
Writers Glen Helfand and Alvin Orloff
dry out in SF gay bars, in 'Cruising Scene.'
pages 34 - 35

Butch gay hit man
James Gandolfini's role in
Pitt/Roberts' 'The Mexican.'
page 33



Between the lines
Deconstructing Alonzo
King's Lines Ballet.
page 31



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Vol. 31 • No. 9 • 1 March 2001

Gay wows at Berlin Film Fest

Lavish lust and gutsy filmmaking on display by Brandon Judell

What had brought the legendary German director Rosa von Praunheim near to tears in Berlin last week? When pumped on the matter, he replied, "I'm an old, fat gay man, and I have seen many festivals. But this one was the most beautiful, so now I can die."

Hopefully, Rosa will live long enough to finish his latest epic about the homeless, *The Cows Get Fucked by the Fog*. But if not, at least we know it will be a peaceful death.

What might have got this helmer so cheerfully melancholy was that the 51st Internationale Filmfestspiele Berlin (or as it's better known, the Berlinale) had, amidst its exhaustive slate of current world cinema, a huge offering of films with gay, lesbian and transgendered themes. Among the Teddy Awards Committee count, there were over 38.

Included, arguably, was Gus Van Sant's *Finding Forrester*. Was Sean Connery's reclusive author gay just because he wore his socks inside out for comfort? Van Sant, when asked, hasn't said a word.

On the other hand, Ridley Scott's *Hannibal*, which might just be the most unacknowledged gay film of the year, was left off. I asked

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A scene from Gerard Corbiau's *Le Roi Danse*

Samurai moves

Homoerotic 'Taboo' at the Castro by David Lamble

As one of the few local cineastes who isn't rooting for *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* to sweep the Oscars, I'm pleased to report that there's now an martial arts film I can get all hot and sticky over. Japanese bad boy director Nagisa Oshima (*In the Realm of the Senses*, *Merry Christmas*, *Mr. Lawrence*) has produced the most sublime of his genre-subverting potboilers, *Taboo*. Oshima's first fiction film in a decade and a half, unfolds in the spring of 1865, when a rich pretty boy seeks to join a ragtag militia of samurai warriors sworn to defend the last Shogun against the absolutist pretensions of the Emperor.

When the sultry Kano (newcomer Ryuhei Matsuda, a double threat at age 17, displaying great moves with both kimono and sword) is asked why

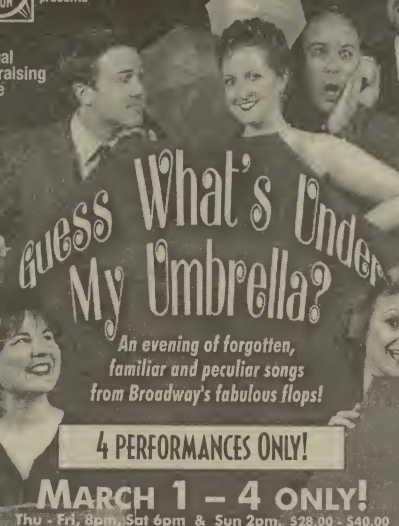
he's forsaking the life of a wealthy merchant's son for the black robes of a Shinto soldier, Kano's perfectly-drawn cupid's lips innocently intone, "It's a license to kill." Like a boy who's just gotten a new set of steak knives for his birthday, Kano obliges his unit by slicing off the head of a prisoner and handing it, like an overripe pineapple, to his commanding officer. Kano, who admits he's never been with a woman, is soon possessed with a boyfriend and a chorus line of agitated potential suitors. Oshima manly strides a highbrow, exploiting *Taboo's* potential as both a swordfest and an almost all-roads sex farce. In the process displaying all the cinema savvy he learned from the French New Wave masters, including the comic use of voice-over narration and chapter titles, as well as a deft blending of Jan.

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Ryuhei Matsuda (Kano), bottom, fends off an advance by Tadanobu Asano (Tashiro), in Nagisa Oshima's *Taboo*

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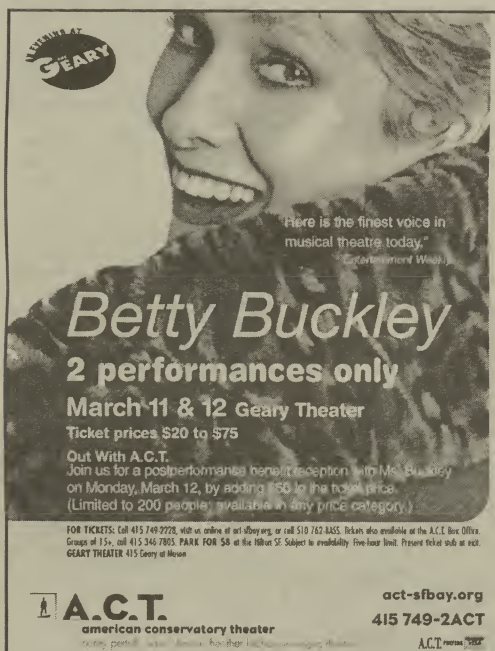
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**by Roberto Friedman
and Polly Personals**

A few of our favorite things last week were the pair of **beardish boys** who showed up the *Sing-A-Long Sound of Music* costume contest in jerseys numbered 16 and 17. Holding hands, they turned their backs to the audience to reveal, in opposing pockets, yellow hankies. Even though the audience was basically composed of families, there were still quite a few **pockets of knowing laughter** from those who got the drift of this saucy "16 Going on 17."

Meanwhile, what exactly is it about once-a-week *Fang-Ex* columnist **Tiger Hashimoto** that has at least one *SF Chronicle* critic and one *Chron* editor all in a lather? Granted, T. Hashimoto is clearly a *nom de plume* — but then so was **Mark Twain**, another famed newspaperman. Now what is it that's got the *Chron* personnel's feathers in a ruffle — that Hashimoto is allowed to have an opinion?

Since Out There always keeps an ear to the ground (it's filthy!), our readers will surely not be surprised to hear that, yes, we do know TH's real identity — and believe us, this in no *Primary Colors*. Think *fleurs* is all we will say — even of the steely variety.

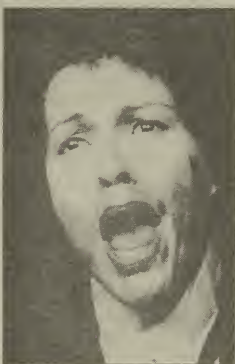
Turning to national affairs, OT tuned into a political-geek channel so we could watch President-Select **Bushy's** very first *mano a mano* with the White House press corps. Baby's first press conference!

We wondered what Bushy would do when confronted with questions not answered on his cheat sheet; solution: offer meaningless platitudes. Now we know Bushy slept during English class — asked about his first meeting with British Prime Minister **Tony Blair**, Bushy said he and wife **Laura** were looking forward to having dinner “with *he* [cringe] and *Mrs. Blair*.”

We also learned that Bushy believes drug war efforts in South America will eventually lead to the total eradication of *cocoa* (not coca) leaves. Good thing, because those **Mars bars** can be pretty darn addictive.

Up with people

Personality **Lorna Luft**, famous for being legend **Judy Garland's** hefty daughter, must have been appalled — or possibly financially well-compensated — by a rather odd and inappropriate sponsor of last week's Judy TV-biopic *Me and My Shadows*. About one-third into Part One, *Judy*, the *Early Years*, pal child star **Mickey Rooney** spies Judy in her dressing room chowing down a handful of amphetamines and tells her to "be careful with those



Judy Davis as Judy Garland



On the Beach, by Marsden Hartley, 1940

things."

Cut it a commercial for a diet pill product called Merida. The spot is called "Taking Control" and shows women pushing aside portions of cheesecake, to voiceover promises that the pills will help them lose weight, "up to 30 lbs." The voiceover disclaimer clearly states, however, that "side-effects may cause insomnia and dry mouth," and that "Merida is a controlled substance, so patients who abuse Merida may become dependent."

Modern times

Dedicated fans of great gay Modernist artist **Marsden Hartley** should not miss a small exhibit of his paintings at the Hackett-Freedman Gallery, 250 Sutter, running through March. An early American abstractionist (1877-1943), Hartley also painted wonderful, rough landscapes of the Maine coast and elsewhere, still lifes, and equally lovely studies of the male body. In the show is *On the Beach*, a 1940 painting of two heroic, comic-sized men at the seashore, and a woman perched in one's lap, most like a cat. Out There has seen some portraits of athletes he did for the YMCA that'll knock your sox off. They're not in **Marsden Hartley, Observation and Intuition**, but it's still

worth a drop-in.

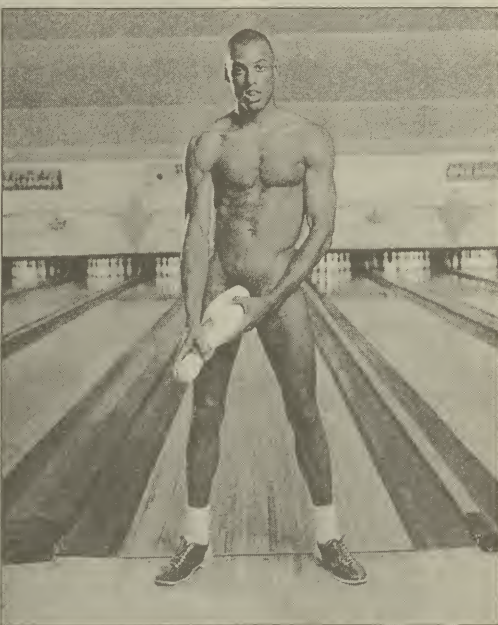
Classified documents

Personals author **Michael C. Smith** just loved reading those personal ads in the back pages. As we well know, some of them are doozies, and Smith had the brilliant idea of contacting the people behind the ads, and photographing them in revealing tableaux.

The results are collected in this pint-size book, subtitled *Portraits of Real People and their Personal Ads* (Universe). All sorts of persuasions and perversions are given the full 15-minute treatment, including **Tickle Party Guy**, **Trannie Chaser**, and **Bowl You Over** ("with my huge cock").

Out There had our own favorites among the entries, of course, including **Joan Seeks Bette** ("Do you have **Bette Davis** eyes? GWM, slender, quirky, 30ish actor comedian, **Crawford** connoisseur and otherwise gem of a boy"); **Daddy Butch** ("seeks the solace of slinky but tender femme to serve me dinner at midnight then slide into my lap"); and **Sexdad Slap** ("nasty abusive silver-topped dad 45 200 6" in shape seeks submissive white/Latin 'son' for ruff incestuous play.") Er, maybe that's just us.

Smith notes, "Of the people I shot, one had been placing the same ad for 10 years with no results, another had gone on over 100 dates in one year, and yet another had 22 ads running at the same time! Some even refused to participate unless I could get them dates." Now that's what we call a person who needs people. ▼



Bowl you over, from photographer Michael C. Smith's *Personals*

It's raining dance

Three noteworthy choreographers in SF

by Stephanie von Buchau

Not to be bitter, since there are many reasons why we live here besides the culture, but one can go for months in the San Francisco Bay Area without anything significant happening in ballet. Then, all of a sudden like last week, the sky opens, and classical dance rains on the parched balletomanes below.

Four miraculous days began last Tuesday with the simultaneous opening of the San Francisco Ballet's Program III at the War Memorial, with a premiere by

Nacho Duato, and the reappearance for the first time in 20 years of the main company of Nederlands Dans Theater (NDT) at Zellerbach Hall. Then, Friday night, SFB launched its substantial Program IV with Mark Morris' world premiere as the centerpiece between revivals of *Prodigal Son* and *Raymonda*.

Though the three choreographers — NDT's Jiri Kylian, Duato and Morris — are nothing alike, the most "classical" piece (the one with the girls in toe shoes) was by Morris, whose dance background is in folk and modern dance. (Kylian and Duato are both clas-

sically trained.) *A Garden*, to music of Couperin orchestrated by Richard Strauss, proved to be the most balletic piece I've ever seen from Morris, though I suspect we'll have to keep updating that judgment as he continues to work with SFB dancers.

He certainly brings out the best in them, but then I sometimes get the feeling that Morris' method would make people on crutches look musical. I have no idea what the title, *A Garden*, refers to in this strictly abstract piece, but perhaps it is a glance at Watteau's outdoor fêtes. Strauss supposedly got his inspiration for his *Tanzsuite* from



From Mark Morris' world premiere of *A Garden*, danced by SF Ballet

viewing the Watteaus in the Louvre. His "take" on the *clavécin* (harpsichord) pieces of François Couperin, *le Grand* (1668-1733, roughly contemporary with Bach and Handel) is actually more Watteau-ish, blending decorative elements of Veronese and Rubens, than Morris' is.

Happy hedons

In Watteau's paintings, people are having Fun with a capital F; there is more than a hint of hysteria in the ruddy cheeks and overflowing bodices. Strauss' score is equally hedonistic, though period-music mavens have to swallow hard to accept the lush legato of 1921 in place of Couperin's dry 18th-century wit. (Anyone seriously interested in this French baroque composer should investigate recordings of his various *Livres* for harpsichord by Christophe Rousset on Harmonia Mundi.)

In Morris' *A Garden*, the fun is considerably less hectic, more classically reposed, fizzy but not flashy, humorous yet not crude, even tender. The "Menuett" (called "Allemande" in my score), a gentle pas de deux for Joanna Berman, fully recovered from her injury, and the staunchly introspective Damian Smith, is light-years from the ugly, abusive relationships in Angelin

Preljocaj's choreography. At one point, when Strauss is trying to forge a huge, romantic climax out of music that refuses to cooperate, Morris has the pair stop dancing, make a few easy gestures and sit down on the floor, creating a moment of perfect harmonic stillness in the midst of the musical bustle. Exquisite.

In "Wirbeltanz," the suite's most extensive number (based on three different Couperin pieces, including one that depicts knitting women run amok — and, remember, this is pre-Mme. LaFarge), Morris exalts Tina LeBlanc's speed and her sunny sophistication. She whips around like a whirlwind ("Wirbel" means whirlpool or vortex), yields to a trio, and then zips back on stage to end the piece with more scintillating footwork.

In the middle of a group dance, I think it was Alice LuAn Lewitzke who slipped out of the wings, executed a few movements and skidded back out of sight. Witty stuff like that and the *enchainements* that end with the dancer's trailing arm suddenly punctuating the sequence, are pure, inventive Morris and explain why the packed house screamed its head off afterward. I thought happily, "I get to see this piece half

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Hard-edged ballet

Alonzo King's Lines Ballet at YBC

by Michael Wade Simpson

Alonzo King deconstructs ballet as most of us know it. Take away pink, the orchestra, musicality. Remove lightness and illusion. Strip away fantasy and narrative. Get rid of sets and tutus and romantic love. Here's what you get: gray-lit dancers moving astonishingly fast; group gropes, walking, electric shock-style phrasing, bodies as daggers thrown through space. You get caffeine and revolt instead of champagne and kisses, you are listening to breaking glass instead of Tchaikovsky. King's dances are like Beckett one-acts, or John Cage symphonies, modern in the difficult way.

Images that lingered from the Lines Ballet program last weekend at Yerba Buena Center: dancer Xavier Ferla's soft descent into a sprained ankle or worse, his hopping exit; the clunking roll off-stage by Chiharu Shibata and Christian Burns after a duet that changed the stakes for the entire evening by finally showing us connection, passion. You could spend a lot of money at the big ballet and not find anything as original as the art that Alonzo King offers. It's just not easy.

The Heart's Natural Inclination was a world premiere *sans* Ferla, in which the remaining men were dressed in fishnet tops and cut-off tights, while the women wore gauzy prom dresses. The music was sampled buzzes, gongs, and *berimbau*. Moody lighting and much disjointed confrontation created an ethos of dysfunction, the feeling that the heart's natural inclination is not exactly love. Redemption came in the central pas de deux, with the stripped Shibata and Burns slowing into something achingly real, beyond struggle, a lovemaking that went past the guarded places.

Moments of choreographic satisfaction like these were surrounded too often by phrases of whipped-off Kingisms: a throw-away turn, a lunge with a spasm, and company unison, intended but impossible in the absence of countable music. The dancers are individuals, especially the men, offering a range of body sizes and movement styles more like real life than ballet. But King's choreography attempts to erase all their idiosyncrasy and show conformi-

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Dancer Xavier Ferla in Alonzo King's Lines Ballet

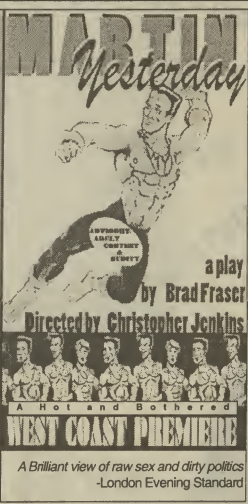
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Supernova of the stage

27 years of 'Beach Blanket Babylon'

by Robert Julian

Faster than a speeding bullet, able to leap tall metaphors in a single bound, *Beach Blanket Babylon* is the supernova of San Francisco musical entertainment. For sheer entertainment value, it's still the best deal in town. And now it is also the longest-running musical in America.

This year, the show's annual update adds Brittany Spears, 'N Sync, and the Bush family to its revolving cast of characters. And some of the sharpest writing comes in the show's parody of Bill and Senator Clinton, with fresh references to current events only a few days old. The amazingly malleable format of the show is the key to its longevity, and the willingness of producer Jo Schuman Silver to adapt the material to reflect the latest *cause célèbre* keeps it fresh.

Snow White is still looking for love in all the wrong places — Rome, Paris, and Yokohama —

and she still gets more advice than any girl could handle from dozens of outrageously bewigged characters. The camp quotient doesn't get any higher than this.

But behind the silly outfits and goofy humor, the ensemble is made up of a group of incredibly talented performers. As singers, they have perfect pitch and great timing; you can clearly hear and understand every word. Their efforts are complemented by a well-rehearsed live band that couldn't be more polished or professional. But the weight of the show rests on the shoulders of two ladies, Renee Lubin and Val Diamond.

Lubin and Diamond are belters, out of the classic Broadway school. But what is extraordinary is their ability not only to sing a song into the stratosphere, but to do it in a completely controlled and perfectly modulated style. This is a rare talent. Anyone who has heard the out-of-control Christina Aguilera march down the path already decimated by

Patti LaBelle will appreciate just how rare it is. Unfortunately, Lubin and Diamond rarely get to sing a whole song from start to finish, but in the current production, Diamond delivers a boffo rendition of the Dusty Springfield classic, "Anyone Who Had a Heart."

Some of the characters in the show are ready to be retired, like John Travolta circa 1978, but even the weakest material is onstage for such a short time, it doesn't kill the show. The most inventive, looniest, and strongest ensemble number in the current production is an inspired quartet that includes Whoopi Goldberg, Richard Simmons, Michael Jackson, and Lady Sarah Ferguson — all singing "I'm Into Food" to the tune of "In the Mood." It's not possible to explain why this number works so well — there is almost no logical reason — but it is a complete delight.

One of the amazing qualities of *Beach Blanket* is the way it transforms the usual reticence of the audience. People arrive goofy for



Clockwise from top left: Doug Magpiong, Tracy Chiappone, and Chris Giroux in *Beach Blanket Babylon*

this show, and proceed to behave accordingly, singing and clapping on cue. How long has it been since you were among their numbers? If the distance between you and *Beach Blanket Babylon* can be measured in years, or even decades, you have been neglecting

your entertainment health. Go. Take a friend, order a bottle of champagne, and enjoy the ride. ▼

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Beyond Tony Soprano

James Gandolfini plays a gay hit man in 'The Mexican'

by Tim Nason

Tony Soprano: one of the most feared, respected and admired characters on television today. Forty-year-old actor James Gandolfini has made *The Sopranos* HBO's highest-rated show ever, and has not only earned the admiration of the show's fans, but has won numerous awards, including the Emmy, from his peers. *The Sopranos* is about a New Jersey mob family, and Gandolfini plays the "Godfather" of the clan, who is in psychiatric therapy.

Beginning its third season on March 4, *The Sopranos* will continue its reign as one of the most lauded shows in television history. "I am quite shocked, yes," Gandolfini said recently at the Beverly Wilshire Hotel, "that it took off the way it did the year it debuted [1999]. I never expected it to be labeled one of the greatest shows ever. There are so many lunatic actors on it, and there is so much violence, but I guess it's the comedy that has reeled everyone in."

Gandolfini, who rarely speaks to the media, took some time out to talk about the success of *The Sopranos*, and about his most recent film, *The Mexican*.

"I got my start in movies, well, my acting start," said the reticent Gandolfini. "I think I am very shy," he admitted. "I never think that what I say is interesting. I have nothing interesting to say."

Well, when Gandolfini got over

his shyness, he let on that he feels very lucky to be in the position he is in. He earned \$10 million for his first two seasons on *The Sopranos* and is now co-starring opposite Julia Roberts and Brad Pitt in one of the spring's most anticipated films, *The Mexican*. "I grew up 20 minutes away from where my character on *The Sopranos* lives," he said. "I am Italian, my character is Italian." His character is the head of the mob — was he ever involved in the mob? "I'm not going to talk about that," said Gandolfini when asked if he does any research for his role with anyone who is in the real mob.

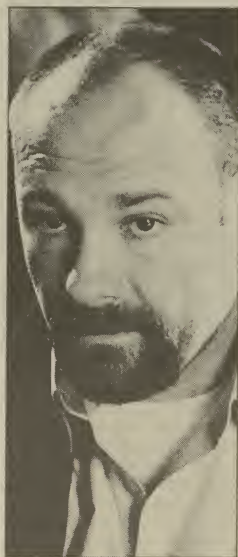
Gandolfini is the son of a custodial engineer at a New Jersey high school, and his mother was a lunchlady before she retired. "Both of my parents grew up in Italy, and moved to the United States."

Before he got into acting, appearing in 1992's *A Stranger Among Us*, he managed nightclubs and bartended in New York City. "One of my friends took me to an acting class one night, and everyone had to go up in front and act something out. I was really nervous, but I actually enjoyed it enough to go back. I fell in love with it."

Tough guys

Gandolfini played mobsters, white trash and tough guys in *Get Shorty*, *A Civil Action*, *The Mighty*, *Night Falls on Manhattan*, *The Juror* and *8mm*.

In *The Mexican*, Gandolfini plays a mobster, but not the type



James Gandolfini in *The Mexican*

anyone would suspect. He is a beary, butch, gay hit man.

He blushed and laughed when I told him that he is going to be the fantasy of many more gay men now that he is playing a big gay role. "Love is love, whether you're gay or straight," he said. "The gay character that I play is non-stereotypical when one thinks about how many gay men are portrayed in films. That is why I took the

role. It is one of the best gay roles I have seen in film. His sexuality is not really even brought into the picture until he eyes someone in a bar and Julia Roberts' character asks him point-blank if he is gay since he is staring at the guy. When it is brought up, it is done in a very tasteful way."

Gandolfini is indebted to Roberts for the chance to star in *The Mexican*. "Julia recommended me for the role," he said. "She is who she is for many reasons. She is kind, has a great heart, very intelligent, and is not afraid to stand up to anyone. She is the nurturing type, and will fight for anyone if she thinks there is a reason."

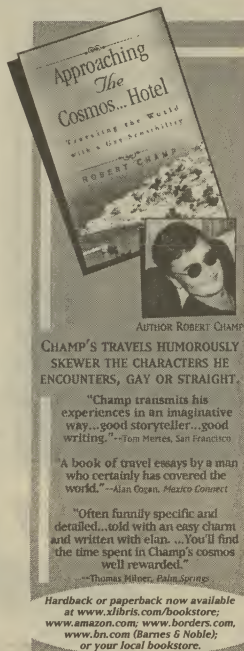
Why are people so fascinated with *The Sopranos*? "I think it's because people can have a hard day at work, come home and watch my character suffer. It is an escape. People have done that ever since television was invented. People loved to and still like to watch Jackie Gleason's pain on *The Honeymooners*, and Carroll O'Connor's problems on *All in the Family*."

At the moment, Gandolfini, the father of a nearly two-year old son, who married for the first time the year *The Sopranos* debuted, is at the popularity level of both former television stars. He wouldn't reveal anything from the upcoming *Sopranos* episodes. "I don't know how they are going to be edited. I really can't say anything, or I will get into trouble." He did reveal that he hopes to be doing at least two more seasons after this one.

"Doing a quality show of any

kind is difficult. If we can sustain the quality of the first three seasons for one or two more, sure I will do them," he said. "And make more movies, too." ▼

The Mexican opens March 2.



AUTHOR ROBERT CHAMP

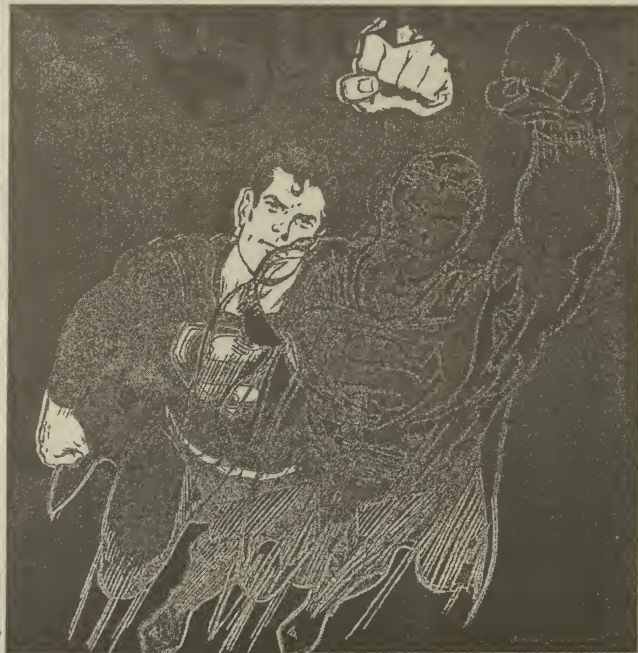
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Andy Warhol, *Superman*, screenprint, 38 x 38 inches

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Feeling the menenergy

'Back to the Brig 2' at the Powerhouse

by Alvin Orloff

Once upon a time at the Brig, a SoMa leather bar that operated in the late '70s and early '80s, a devilishly handsome barback took a fancy to me, and, as was the custom at the time, came back to my place at the end of the night for carnal relations. In the morning I woke to find him gone



and a perfectly mushy romantic note in his place. I next saw him fully prepared to start a magnificent affair, but instead got brushed off. Seething, I returned to the bar a few days later wearing a pink chiffon ball gown with assorted beads, belts, and bangles à la Cyndi Lauper (this was 1983) and proceeded to kiss the leather-clad Lothario on the cheek in front of all his butch friends. I still cherish the memory of his mortified look.

So when the Powerhouse held its second *Back to the Brig* night, a tribute to the sleazy spirit of yesteryear, I just had to check it out. Thankfully, nobody had thought to recreate the raunchy scent of poppers and Lysol, but everything else was authentically period. The caged go-go guy sported a mustache, the videos were replaced by vintage "art films," and the Sunday night DJ, Bus Station John, spun hi-NRG, the short-lived tag end of the Disco phenomenon which mixed alarmingly high BPMs and a flamboyantly gay sensibility.

Song titles like "Cruisin' the Streets" and "Menenergy" say it all. The huge crowd, many of whom were learning their ABCs when the Brig closed its doors in '85, responded to the retro-decadence enthusiastically.

I'd just started my night and was sipping a scrumptious martini mixed by a real knock-out of a bartender when, to my horror, a wet jockstrap contest was announced. Given the retro-campy trimmings of the night, I knew this would be a self-conscious, postmodern parody of a wet jockstrap contest as much as the real thing, but I still didn't want to see it. Beauty contests, no matter how perverse, creep me out. Consequently, I fled to the Hole in the Wall.

Freaky links

I once saw a shirtless teenage boy with long blond hair and an electric guitar strapped around his

neck being pulled along on his skateboard by a golden retriever. He wasn't particularly handsome, but Spuds McKenzie himself would have been awed by his self-conscious *joie de vivre*. If that boy were a bar, he'd be the Hole in the Wall. The diverse crowd there is always boisterous and convivial, and the too-much-is-never-enough, freaky, arty, rockin' biker decor never ceases to entertain. I arrived to find DJ Darshan (looking so sexy there were men literally pacing outside the DJ booth, like wild animals in heat) blasting a rock set so raucous and fun I completely forgot I prefer electronic music. I spent the next hour happily discussing literature and gossiping while savoring a second martini.

Upon my return to the Powerhouse, I ran into a boy I knew slightly (he'd once taken me home while I was, for reasons I forget, clad entirely in silver lamé) who told me the contest had been fun, if overlong, and the winner was busy doing shots with the losers backstage. I found this disappointing. If one must compete, I think one ought to show the same "That tiara is mine, damn you!" excessiveness displayed by Amber Von Tussle in John Waters' movie masterpiece *Hairspray*. I certainly hope that if I'm ever subjected to any



'I was single and feeling frisky; it was time to cruise.'

sort of Mr. So-and-So contest that at least one runner-up is a terribly bad sport. Tears. I want to see tears.

Once I'd finished disapproving of the wet jockstrap contest, the remainder of the evening stretched before me like a vast, lonely wasteland. I was single and feeling frisky; it was time to cruise.

All around me, men were getting friendly. Unfortunately, around cute guys, my normal introversion goes into hyperdrive, and I become as shy as a 19th-century New England spinster abroad amongst heathens and cannibals. I just can't make the first move. After a few uncomfortable minutes, I realized I'd have to act bold-

ly and removed my shirt. Almost immediately, a young man came up behind me and began slowly and erotically rubbing my torso with an ice cube. I'm sure this looked hot, but it felt cold — freezing, in fact. I flinched away and then, so as not to seem rude, introduced myself. The hypothermia fetishist seemed uninterested in talking and ambled away.

Suddenly, it was last call. Handsome lads and hunkalicious dudes passed me by on the way out to the "sidewalk sale," which, given the abominable weather, was brief and brisk. Alas, nobody spoke to me. Then, quite arbitrarily, the night was over. ▼

Choreographers

◀ page 31

a dozen more times in the next couple of seasons."

Going Dutch

Kylián has long been one of modern ballet's most respected choreographers, but to tell the truth, I think his dancers are better than the material itself. At Zellerbach, NDT offered Kylián's 1981 breakthrough piece, *Forgotten Land*, set to the *Sinfonia da Re-*

quiem by Benjamin Britten. SFB used to have this work in its repertory, but NDT dances it half-again as fast as SFB used to. The ballet is better for the speed.

If there is one thing that overcomes Kylián's intellectual pretensions — I hated the trappings of *Wings of Wax* (an upside-down bare tree, roots and all, circled by a moving spotlight) and all that grunting, farting and pants-dropping in *Sarabande* — it is the fabulous NDT dancers, so fast and strong that you can easily blot out the extramusical choreographic crap. The men, bald-

ing, bearded and brutal, look like habitues of a hot leather bar, while the women are as buffed and fearless as Linda Hamilton in *The Terminator*. I could watch these dancers all day and night.

Kylián's originality lies in the pas de deux, two people entwined around each other but still moving at breakneck speed. It isn't particularly sexual, but it is thrilling. Duato, who danced with NDT and was encouraged to choreograph by Kylián, resembles his mentor in pas de deux tech-

next page ▶

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Coming in out of the cold

by Glen Helfand

Cold, rainy nights have a way of making you long for a bit of heat. They find us scurrying for cover, though often it means people are huddled at home, with the warmth of their computer connections. I ducked out of a Thursday evening downpour and into the subterranean shelter of a BART station. On the platform I encountered the heavy, cruisy stares of a guy with a nice goateed face, but unfortunately clownish, fashion-baggy skateboarder clamdigger pants that went down midcalf and newish rainboots, black leather jacket and a midriff-baring T-shirt baring a bear midriff. He leaned on his umbrella to strike a seductive pose. The whole package was a bit off, so I demurred with a half-smile. Oh, well.

I met up with two friends for dinner in the Castro. The streets were rain-slickened and somewhat underpopulated. It was easy to get tables in restaurants, and through watering-hole windows I could see vacant barstools. We breezed right into Firewood, settled down to a hearty dinner and, near 11 p.m., decided to hit a bar or two. We were all somewhat ambivalent about which one — nothing around here really beckons — so we just wandered the street.

The Sing-A-Long Sound of Music was just letting out at the Castro Theater. So we followed a guy in pale green lederhosen into Daddy's. It seemed like the right thing to do. If not particularly hopping, it was at least warm and friendly inside. The lights are just dim enough, and the décor, besides the flourish of a big SM flag, is unobtrusive and basic.

The tone in the place was neighborhood-friendly, without a

hint of attitude. There were perhaps 20 guys hanging out, staring into space or even pawing at each other. One handsome couple in the back actually started dancing to the unidentifiable pop music, while a solitary older fellow intently played the videogame in the front.

The video monitors pulsed with a slide show of beefcake images — solo guys posing before a variety of backgrounds. Once I looked up and saw a bizarre close-up image of the collar, tie and lapels of a leather formal outfit.

Alp wanted

I set down my raingear on a stool and chatted up the guy in the Alpine formalwear — he was wearing a white button-down shirt under his lederhosen and a felt brimmed hat. He really enjoyed the Julie Andrews movie, and the participatory portions. He especially liked the part where the Nazis come looking for the von Trapps and people in the audience shine flashlights on the curtains. And the print, he said, was great.

"But didn't you get cold with those bare legs?" I asked, checking them out.

"Well, when I'm outside," he said. "I'd figure I'd come in here and take my shirt off."

Which he quickly proceeded to do. He looked pretty good that way — those suede straps! — though the more ordinarily dressed man he was with seemed to glare at me, so I went back to the bar. There was a flyer there that said that it was Pot Luck Thursday, a night in which you get a raffle ticket for each drink. At midnight, the shirtless bartender picks a number and someone wins a jackpot of at least 50 smackers. I noticed a couple of guys at the end of the bar had a neatly stacked little pile of the red stubs.



'We followed a guy in green lederhosen; it seemed the right thing to do.'

The night before, I'd had a conversation with a friend who recently went through a health crisis, and extolled the miracle of a very conscious diet. So I decided to alter my drinking habits and to experiment with teetotaling — at least for one night. I ordered a cranberry juice, which the hunky, but thankfully not overly sculpted bartender gladly brought me. Later he even gave me a free refill. Who knew there were perks?

I scoped the room, but most everyone was paired off or grouped. So I turned back to my friends to chat about this and that. It was getting near Midnight, and we actually felt anticipation about the forthcoming drawing — since it was so calm inside, our odds were good. The bartender posted a piece of paper with the ticket number, and a few minutes later, a baseball-capped guy sitting along the wall howled that he won! His friends howled, too.

"What are you going to do with all that money?" I asked him, as if he'd just had a date with Regis.

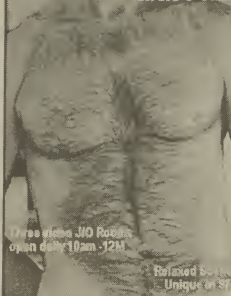
"Well, I think I'll be able to

spend it all in one place," he replied, smiling and grabbing the four beers he'd just ordered.

After the drawing, a few more guys picked up and left, and the place lost a bit more of its group appeal. So we bundled up and hit the slippery streets to further engage in our heat-seeking mission. ▽

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Choreographers

◀ previous page

nique. *Without Words* (on SFB Program III) is set to six Schubert songs arranged for cello and piano by Mischa Maisky. It is a series of duets, with one solo (Stephen Legate to "Heidenroslein") and a couple of group numbers.

Yuan Yuan Tan and tall newcomer Zachary Hench dance on the precipice in "An die Musik." He thrusts her overhead in a Bol-

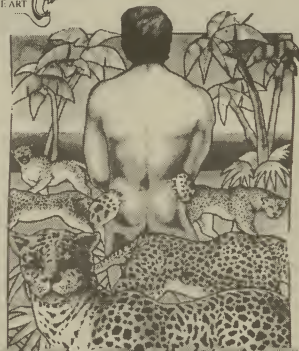
shoi bravura-type lift, only to have her flex a foot quickly before descending. The speed and the height make the duet seem doubly dangerous. In "Du bist die Ruh," Gonzalo Garcia and Nicole Starbucks are more romantic but still physically convoluted. Julia Adam and Cyril Pierre, Catherine Baker and Legate were the other couples.

Tony Fabre, from Duato's own Spanish company, staged the piece, which had its world premiere at American Ballet Theatre in 1998. The second cast was

thoroughly rehearsed by the time I saw *Without Words* on Thursday. David Kadarach's cello (piano accompaniments by Roy Bogas) sang the Schubert songs like a good German baritone. ▽

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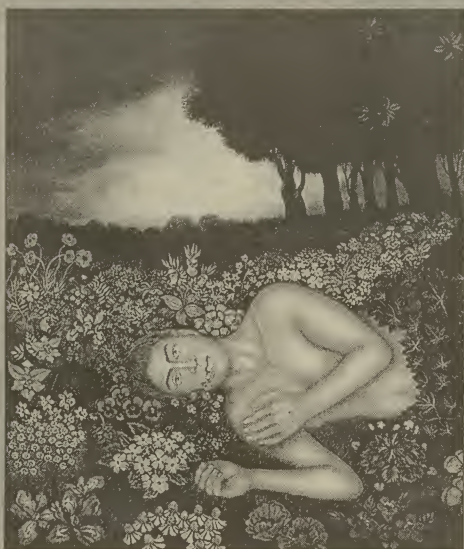


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OUT & ABOUT

Calendare by Mark Mardon



El Amante by Tino Rodriguez, at the San Jose Museum of Art

Cruising art

Slipping wine and cocktails at chic art openings is currently a popular gay pastime in the Bay Area, where art galleries and museums serve as major cruising and schmoozing zones for culture-craving homosexuals. Lately we've been listing more gallery openings than nightclub and bar happenings, in large part because art spaces are proving far more dynamic than booze palaces in shaping our city's cultural fabric and boosting our spirits.

I'm not making this up. I'm hearing it from good friends who expend considerable energy and money checking out the local dance-music and/or art scenes. What people are telling me (and what I've experienced for myself) is this: GLBT bar/nightclub patrons are bored with the local offerings, with the tedious disco/house paradigm so entrenched in the gay scene, and with the phenomenally egotistical "superstar" DJs who spin out the same shallow effluvia week after week, party after party, claiming glory for themselves while bludgeoning patrons into submission with screeching diva sounds and tired beats. Disenchantment with the dismal club/party scene drives decent queer people to seek other, more stimulating pursuits.

Thus, art. Get it where you can, so long as the getting is good. For instance, hop in a car or take the train and scoot down to San Jose on Sunday, March 4, to attend the big opening of "Contemporary Devotion" at the San Jose Museum of Art, where works by one of our finest local queer artists, Tino Rodriguez, will be featured in the Skylight Gallery (New Wing) alongside those of other painters and sculptors — including Manuel Ocampo, Enrique Chagoya and Elizabeth Gomez — whose imaginations have been sparked by religion and spirituality.

Specifically, the exhibition curated by Susan Landauer brings together works that bounce off the *retablo* and *ex-voto* traditions of Mexican Catholic religious art. This ricocheting notion ideally suits Tino's perverse, off-the-wall talent for turning iconography into scandal. He delights in using his refined, surrealist technique — applied with the touch of a Renaissance master — to upend religiosity. Yet somehow he manages consistently to convey notions of the sacred in ways more profound than perhaps he intends.

What's most sacred in Tino's imagery is the concept of queer. He unabashedly explores and proclaims the sacredness of queer sexuality by exploding the notion that the sacred cannot be carnal, visceral, even brutal. The sacred, for Tino, is not purity, but its opposite, defilement, especially by death, blood, and flowers.

The flowers and foliage in Tino's *retablos* always have a disturbing, claustrophobic perfection to them, choking the landscape and any humans they wrap around and engorge. Again and again in his oil paintings, flowers of evil strangle young Latino men with smooth, sleek skin and slender torsos, whose seductive deaths suggest the most sublime possible spiritual state.

Art intoxicates. Go out and get high. It's the queer thing to do. ▼

The opening reception for "Contemporary Devotion" takes place on Sunday, March 4 at a special all-day (10 a.m. to 5 p.m.) festival of music, dance, food and art, free to the public, at the San Jose Museum of Art, 110 South Market St., San Jose. Call or surf: (408) 294-2787; www.sjmusart.org

Fri 2

Theatre Rhinoceros

"Don't Make Me Say Things That Hurt You," a surreal comedy about the inner life of a man in hiding, written and performed by Doug Holsclaw. Directed by Sabin Epstein. High atop the city in his 3-D chamber of pink, Pete Hilton plots murder, revenge, and dinner parties wearing really cute clothes. Who is this person and why won't he stop talking? \$16. 8pm. Thru March 24. 2926 16th St. Tix/info: 861-5079; www.therhino.org

Jon Sims Center for the Arts

AIrSpace Artists In Residence, The GAPA (Gay Asian Pacific Alliance) Dance Company, perform a workshop production of new pieces by emerging choreographers Michael Palad, Alma Soongi Beck and Budi Chandra Kirana. This dynamic collective of young, queer, Asian American dance artists draws on traditional Asian and Pacific Island ethnic dance forms, infused with an overtly gay sensibility. \$5-\$10 sliding. 8pm. 1519 Mission St. Info: 554-0402.

Il Teatro 450

Women In Time presents "Getting Out" by Marsha Norman, about a young woman returning home after serving eight years in prison. The play asks important questions about crime and punishment and the powerful impact they can have on a young identity. Directed by Margo Whitcomb. \$18 (\$15 students/seniors). 8pm today & Sat.; 7pm Sun. 449 Powell St. (near Sutter). Tix/info: 433-1172.

Eureka Theatre

42nd Street Moon presents its annual fundraising revue, "Guess What's Under My Umbrella?" this year celebrating Broadway's forgotten, sometimes peculiar but always entertaining "stepchildren" — the shows that flopped — including several well-known songs that survived the flops. \$28 Thu.; \$35 Fri., Sat., Sun. (\$40 first four rows). 8pm (6pm Sat.; 2pm Sun.). 215 Jackson St. (btwn Battery & Front). Tix/info: 255-8207; www.42ndStMoon.com

Theater Artaud

Company Chaddick performs "Degrees of Change," a suite of dances for three women and two men, set to atmospheric music by Iva Bittova and Hildegard Von Bingen, evoking the sensual, romantic art of the pre-Raphaelite paintings by Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema. Plus "Hard Drive," a collaboration with local multi-instrumentalist, singer/songwriter and composer Daniel Berkman. It's a take on the crazy world of the New Economy and its increasingly frenetic work culture. \$15 & \$18. 8pm. Also on March 3, 9, & 10. 450 Florida St. (at 17th St.). Tix: 621-7797; ticketweb.com

Magic Theatre

The A.C.T. Master of Fine Arts Program presents "Woyzeck" and "Leonce and Lena" by Georg Buchner, directed by Adran Giurgea. Performed by third-year graduate students. Working as a play within a play, the company will all play roles in "Woyzeck" (an impoverished soldier, tortured and delusional, is driven to destroy the only thing he has ever loved) and "Leonce and Lena" (a group of young people, bored by the trivialities of life and love, refuse to participate in the political and social affairs of the absurd kingdom of Popo), moving back and forth across plot lines, blurring the boundaries of conventional staging and revealing the commonalities of both plays. \$10 (\$5 students, full-time teachers, seniors). 8pm. Thru March 18. Fort Mason Center, Building D, 3rd Floor. Tix/info: 749-2ACT; www.act-sfbay.org

Yugen/Noh Space

Twelve Bay Area/Sonoma County artists perform "The Serpent: A Timeless Archetype," an evening of dance, theater, live music and snakes, cele-

brating the Chinese year of the snake. Produced by Sebastopol snake dancer Soonyana. Featuring 10 snakes. SF performer Jim Berenholtz will do a trance-like yogic dance with seven snakes, including a 15-ft. albino Burmese python. With musicians Kevin Marshall and Tim Bolling playing unusual ethnic instruments on "Cosmic Serpent." \$12-\$15. 8pm. Also on March 3. 2840 Mariposa. Reservations: (707) 953-0513.

The Atrium at 600 Townsend

Opening reception: Rhode Island School of Design presents "RISD on the Road: Printmaking and Photography," a juried exhibition showcasing works by the college's alumni working in three disciplines. Includes gallery talk and slide presentation. Free. 5-8pm. 600 Townsend St. Info: 864-8541.

Sat 3

SF Hiking Club

Join other outdoor lovers for an Anandell State Park hike and enjoy wildflowers on rolling hills, grassy meadows, oak woodlands and Douglas Fir forests. It's a moderate 12-mile hike with a 2,500-ft. elevation gain. Meet 8:30am under the large Safeway sign at Market and Dolores. Club info: 487-6410; www.sfhiking.com

Church of St. John the Evangelist

The San Francisco Conservatory of Music, under the direction of David Conte, performs a program of Bernstein's Chichester Psalms, Mozart, and other choral music. Charles Rus, organist. \$5 suggested donation. 5pm. 1661 15th St. (at Julian).

Music Concourse Bandshell, Golden Gate Park

Human Rights Watch youth present "Festival to End Exploitation of Child Farm Workers," in which "local bands join forces in hopes of raising awareness towards the mistreatment of child farm workers." Some 300,000-800,000 child farm workers labor under dangerous, grueling conditions in the U.S. Free (donations welcome). 1-4:30pm. Info: 362-3250.

Culture Cache Gallery

Opening reception: "Fusionary," new paintings by LA artists Man One and Freddi Cerasoli in a show that compares and contrasts the two styles at the forefront of urban culture and the art surrounding each: Ravers and B-



Lisi DeHaas performs *Study at Venue 9*. See Tuesday.

boys, the club and the street, tagging and flyers. Live DJs and refreshments. Free. 7-11pm. 731 Florida St. (at 20th St.). Info: 642-2360; www.culturecache.com

Martin Lawrence Galleries

Opening reception: "American Pop," an exhibition of paintings, trial proofs, and screenprints by Andy Warhol and Keith Haring. Includes Warhol's screenprints of General Custer, Howdy Doody, Mao, Marilyn Monroe, Mickey Mouse, Mick Jagger and others, plus many of Haring's queer-iconographic figures. Free. 6-9:30pm. 366 Geary St. RSVP: 956-0345. Info: www.martinlawrence.com

Sun 4

Jon Sims Center for the Arts

Slide/talk presentation: *Truly Wilde: The Unsettling Story of Dolly Wilde, Oscar's Unusual Niece*, by Joan Schenkar, author of this recently published biography of Dolly Wilde, who made her career in the salons — and bedrooms — of some of London and Paris's most interesting women and men. Attracting people of taste and talent wherever she went, Dolly drenched her prodigious talents in liquids and chemicals, burnt up her opportunities in flamboyant affairs, and created continuous sensations by the ways in which she seemed to be reliving the life of her infamous uncle. \$5-\$10 donation (NOTAFLOP). 2pm. 1519 Mission St. (at 11th St.). Info: 554-0402.

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

Class: In preparation for the festive Jewish holiday of Purim, Jewish lesbian juggler Sara Felder teaches "Juggling 101 for the Complete Klutz." All welcome. \$10 non-members. Pre-registration required. Includes materials and a bagel brunch. Congregation Sha'ar Zahav is a progressive Reform synagogue of LGBT and heterosexual Jews, together with lovers, family and friends, both Jewish and non-Jewish. 11am-2pm. 290 Dolores St. (at 16th St.). Info: Dahlia



Denise Balthrop Cassidy and Jennifer Wagner find release in *Getting Out* at Il Teatro 450. See Friday.

Gross, Program Director, 575-4961;
www.shaarzahav.org

Ashkenaz Music & Dance Community Center, Berkeley

Copwatch presents the second annual "In Song & Struggle," an International Women's Day Event celebrating human rights and 11 years of Berkeley Copwatch. An evening of music and poetry with Bay Area women artists Shelley Doty (Lilith Faire winner 1999), Rebecca Riots, Blues "Sugar Mama" Gwen Avery, Making Waves, Rachel Garlin, Aya de Leon, Copper Wimmim, and Rhiannon. The traveling exhibition/memorial, "Stolen Lives Wall," will be on display. \$8-\$15 sliding. 4-10pm. 1317 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. Info: (510) 548-0425.

Mon 5

Center for the History of Sexual Diversity

Citizen Cake, the Hayes Valley bakery, presents "Cakewalk: A Dessert Auction," a benefit for the GLBT Historical Society of Northern California. Featuring the creations of pastry chefs from the Bay Area's best restaurants, including Elizabeth Falkner of Citizen Cake; Eric Shelton of Aqua; Tim Gable of Fifth Floor; Charles Dugo of The Slanted Door; Selena Rubio of XYZ; James Ormsby of Bruno's; Cheryl Len of Montclair Baking Company; Claire Legas of John Frank; Caroline Romanski of Cafe Monk; Casey Hayden of Casey's; and William Sonoma's Jane Tanner. Each chef will produce a magnificent and original dessert that will be auctioned. \$10 suggested donation at door. 6-8pm. 973 Market St., Suite 400. Info: 777-5455; www.glhs.org

Piaf's Restaurant & Cabaret

QComedy.com presents "Gay Comedy Showcase at Piaf's," this week hosted by Dan Rothenberg. Featuring Heather Gold, Jason Lorber, Nick Leonard, Jeffrey Douglas & Aunt Augusta, Jeff Kryslar, Bridget Schwartz, and more. \$5. 8pm. 1686 Market St. (at Gough). Reservations: 541-5610.

Tue 6

Venue 9

Footloose's Women's Work project presents four pieces: Lisi DeHaas' "Study" chronicles the coming of age a lesbian performer growing up in New York City with her closeted gay dad. When she leaves the world of Musical Theater queens and Broadway bound dreams to move to the queer mecca of San Francisco, she finds an unexpected family value: coming out. For all four characters portrayed by DeHaas (including Dad and his lover), studliness is a core value of their sexual and artistic identity. Eliza Perkins' "Cocoon" is a movement theater solo about the struggle for awareness. Turning inside out—a purse, a woman and a sheet of paper. She's looking for the beast that lurks just beneath the surface. Rebecca Schultz's "Passages" uses spoken word and visual metaphor to intertwine the worlds of grandmother, mother and daughter: taking a simultaneously humorous and introspective look at the lessons that can be learned from the women who have gone before us. Laura Sottile's "Nothin' Personal: a day in the life of Pepita Cunningham," is a comic monologue about a day in a woman's life as a Puerto Rican in Manhattan. \$8-\$10. 8pm. 252 9th St. (at Folsom). Tix/info: 289-2000; www.venue9.com

Wed 7

Modern Times Bookstore

Documentary photographers Ken Light (UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism; SF Art Institute) and Kerry Teremaine (former executive editor of Mother Jones) present "Witness in Our Time," a talk and slide show tracing the recent history of social documentary photography. Free. 7:30pm. 888 Valencia St. (at 20th St.). Info: 282-9246; www.mtbs.com

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"Breathe Wednesdays," featuring the beloved DJ Jimez on the turntables, spinning fresh, airy faerie sounds to compliment your concoctions of oxy-



Sensuality pervades Company Chaddick's Degrees of Change at Theater Artaud. See Friday.

gen, aromatherapy, and herbal elixirs. Reported benefits of oxygen therapy include reduced fatigue, heightened relaxation, hangover recovery, and headache remedy. Tues-Sat, 4pm-2am; Sun. 12-8pm. 795 Valencia St. (at 19th St.). Info: 255-2102; www.2202bar.com

Thu 8

Phoenix II Theatre

Crowded Fire presents Mollena Williams in "69Stories — One Pervert's Tale," in which an irrepressible submissive diva entices theater-goers down the road less traveled to the SF S/M community. You think it's easy to find someone to respect you after you lick their boots? Followed by an S/M "play" demonstration. \$12-\$18 sliding. 8pm. Thu.-Sat., thru March 31. 655 Geary St. (at Leavenworth). Tix/info: 675-5995; www.crowded-fire.org

St. Paulus Lutheran Church

"Global Women's Strike: Women's Response to Globalization," an evening of celebration and protest marking International Women's Day. Striking news from around the world, video, women's speak out against no pay, low pay, and too much work, welfare "reform," violence against sex-workers, theft of the election, environmental profiteering, PG&E, the housing crisis, etc. With entertainment, food and fun. \$5-\$10 donation (NO-TAFLOF). 6-10pm. 930 Gough. Info: SF Strike committee, 626-4114.

Crucible Steel Gallery

Opening reception: "Circuits, Currents & Codes," curated by Chris Benfield and Amy Davila, a group exhibition of five artists who utilize technology to expose the humanity and inhumanity, innate and programmed, within machines. Machines once meant to provide one function now provide quite another. Featuring works by Jeff Becker (large kinetic, motorized sculptures), Jesse and Glenda Drew (a mock ATM which disseminates bits of commentary), Mark Faigenbaum (earthly imagery from reassembled mechanistic patterns), and Eleanor Kent (electro-luminescent wire crochets and knits). With sound installation performance by DJ pod. Free. 6:30-9pm. 2050 Bryant St. Info: 648-7562.

Venue 9

A New Music Conspiracy in association with Footloose Productions presents "Pluralities: A Festival of Light, Sound, and Art." A three-day festival (thru March 10) featuring musical offerings accompanied by video/film projections and graphic arts. Tonight: electro-acoustic selections by Connec-

tor; ambient, jungle, and down-tempo electronic improvisations by Noah Thorp and Sync, Synthetic; Eastern European folk/fusion by the Peoples Bizarre; and video projections by VJ UBIK. In the front lobby: Susan Fauman's projections and photographs illustrating dream imagery, produced from negatives post-processed via a variety of non-digital techniques. And Darren Koepp's small drawings in pen and pencil. \$8-\$10 (\$12-\$14 2-night pass; \$15-\$20 3-night pass). 252 Ninth St. (at Folsom). Tix/info: 289-2000; www.venue9.com

Yerba Buena Center

San Francisco Performances presents "Bang On A Can All Stars," the latest installment in one of the country's most impressive showcases for new music, where defying categories and falling between the cracks is routine, and where brilliance routinely emerges. Tonight featuring works by composers Phil Kline ("Exquisite Corpses"), Julia Wolfe ("Believing"), Evan Ziporyn ("Three Impersonations"), Michael Gordon ("I Buried Paul"), Don Byron ("Eugene I," accompanied by a video of the "Ernie Kovacs Show"), and Eno/Wyatt/Davies ("Music for Airports 1/1"). \$24 & \$34. 8pm. Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Theater, 700 Howard St. (at 3rd St.). Tix/info: 392-4400; www.sfperformances.org

Thacher Gallery, USF

Opening reception: *Miserere et Guerre*, the complete series of 58 etchings by French artist Georges Rouault, one of the great printmakers of the modern age. The works lament the evils of the modern world, including the Oppression of the Down-trodden and Sufferings of the War-Torn. Organized by The Museum of Contemporary Religious Art at Saint Louis University. Free. 4-6pm. Gleason Library/Geschke Center, University of San Francisco, 2130 Fulton St. Info: 422-2434; www.usfca.edu/library/thacher

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LEATHER SCENE



Four of the five candidates for Mr. San Francisco Leather 2001, from left, are John Bernal (Mr. Eagle), Eric Bernier (Mr. Edge), Houston Davenport (Mr. Powerhouse), and Chris Ross (Mr. Daddy's). They will compete for the title on Friday, March 9 at Club Townsend. Not pictured is Mike Shaefer, a sponsored contestant.

Mr. San Francisco Leather judges named

by Mister Marcus

The Mr. San Francisco Leather Contest committee last week announced the judges who will choose our next leather icon at the contest being staged at Club Townsend on Friday, March 9.

The following people have consented to take time out of their busy schedules to serve on the judging panel, and what a sterling cast of leather people we have this year!

The head judge will be Lance Gear, Mr. SF Leather 2000, who did a magnificent job with his title and did his hometown proud at IML in Chicago last May by placing ninth in the scoring out of 62 contestants. His shower parties, the IML 2000 Reunion party, and his support of his runner-ups (Bob Miller and Rob Esmonde) in their fundraising efforts serve as an example of his leather leadership.

The committee is honored to have IML's chief judge serve on our committee. Chicago's Thom Dombkowski, who has been an activist both in and out of the leather communities of the Windy City, gets the opportunity to participate in a contest at the grassroots level.

At the second annual International Mr. Leather contest in 1980, San Francisco's entry was a dedi-

cated leather man, Michael Martin. Michael placed fourth in the competition in Chicago that year. To this day he states, "David Kloss was a hard act to follow." Michael is still into leather (and has been involved in a great amount of volunteerism), and just as in the early days of IML, he still prefers the South of Market leather scene.

Representing the biker/club community, well-known club personality Gary Kenyon, who has long witnessed and participated somehow in the competitions, will serve as a judge, and his sense of fairness and community involvement will serve the panel very well. He was a member of the LOBOC in Southern California and is either a "friend of" or an honorary member of almost every club in town.

Not to be politically correct, but the female viewpoint of choosing our new icon is de rigueur almost every year in San Francisco. This year, the representation will be filled by the charming Laura Federico, a freelance writer and sometime contributor to *Frontiers* newsmagazine. She co-organized the first-ever Dyke Daddy Contest. She also serves on the board of directors of Positive Resources Center. Her fervent involvement in leather activities, and her extremely good looks, serve her well in achieving almost every goal she has set for herself.

The second out-of-town judge is the handsome Jeff Wacha, Mr. Leather of Los Angeles 2000. Jeff is the Road Captain of the Oedipus Motorcycle Club in Los Angeles and owns an upscale gift shop in Long Beach. At IML in Chicago, he was among the 20 finalists placing twelfth in a field of 62 contestants. The committee is happy and proud to have the expertise of this man from the Southland.

Not only is he popular in the leather communities around the country and the world for that matter, Ingu Yun is also strongly attached to the country/western/rodeo scene. He has managed to raise thousands of dollars for various agencies through his Hoe-down benefits and the Sun Dance Saloon — the only C/W outlet for the LGBT community. He was also on the bare chest calendar, and he and his 11 other calendar men helped raise several thousand dollars. Ingu travels extensively to leather events and country/western gatherings, and his thorough knowledge of the leather/BD/SM lifestyle is surely an asset in the task of selecting our next icon.

There you have it: the panel for our 2001 leather title holder. At last count, there will be five (5) contenders. John Bernal will represent the SF Eagle Tavern; Houston Davenport will represent the Powerhouse; Eric Bernier will represent the Edge; Chris Ross represents Daddy's; and Mike Schaefer

next page ►

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Thursday, March 1

The 2002 Bare Chest Calendar reaches the halfway mark tonight with the selection of Mr. June 2002 at Harvey's. Judges are Seth Adams, Patrick Batt and Scott Strang. Win \$100; be a good volunteer!

Weekend, March 2-4

At the Dallas Eagle in Texas, the new Mr. and Ms. South Plains Leather titles emerge with a stellar list of judges, seminars, play parties, plus the competition featuring Queen Cougar as the emcee. This one should be a blast! I'll be there judging, so you'll be the first to know the results.

In San Diego, Mark Chipman steps aside for Mr. San Diego Leather 2002 taking place Saturday evening at Rich's. This is the culmination of Leather Pride Week. And in Baltimore, the Mr. and Ms. Baltimore Eagle contest takes place and this one should be fun!

Friday, March 2

It's the first Friday of the month, so it's Boot Night at the Loading Dock by Stompers, at around 2100.

If it's wearing boots, you know the drill. Always a great night at the 'Dock.

Meet & Greet the judges and contestants for Mr. SF Leather 2001 at the Powerhouse around 2000. Lance Gear hosts the event where the contestants draw their numbers for order of appearance. Honored judges introduced. Don't miss this one!

Saturday, March 3

Celebration of the life of the late Bill Walden, certainly one of the most well-liked members of the Cal Eagles MC, at the Eagle Tavern, 1600-1800.

Wednesday, March 7

Leathermen's Discussion Group at Club Eros, at 1930 hrs. The subject is: "Fisting & Handballing," narrated by Lucky Choi. It's free

Friday, March 9

Mr. San Francisco Leather 2001 contest at Club Townsend. Doors open at 1900 hrs. The tickets are going fast!

Bouncing babies

by John F. Karr

My number one Man of the Moment, Nino Bacci, gets deluxe treatment in Chi Chi LaRue's latest video, *Jacked to Vegas*, even though he's given a run for the money by his co-stars. Nino's only in one scene, but it's swell, and sandwiched between two other real doozies. He's also in a group scene, but not prominently featured.

It's Ms. LaRue herself who is featured in a "Special Guest Appearance." While quite a few people will pick up a video because LaRue made it, how many, I wonder, will pick up one because she's in it? The presence of a queen, especially one as bumptious as Chi Chi, disrupts the mood of male sexuality and goes the pacing—it's like getting electric shocks between each scene. Perhaps it's become too hard for Chi Chi to differentiate between being an oversize personality and getting too big for her britches: the star of a porn video should be the sex, with the director's craft, as well as the director, skillfully and completely hidden.

At any rate, don't let Chi Chi's presence deter you from *Jacked to Vegas*, because her brash appearances—which carry the movie's cartoon plot—are admittedly brief. And the rest of *Jacked to Vegas* is a little porno feast. I can't wait to get the DVD of this one, so I can do a little gloat-and-dote while personally working over its cornucopia of sensational moments.

Here's the plot: Chi Chi gets the fevered idea that the thing to do is highjack an RTD bus and cart a load of porn stars to a convention in Las Vegas. She corrals a mess of top names to fill that bus,



and the guys have an orgy as it whizzes along the highway, while traffic flies by on all sides. So does the sexuality of the scene, which is heavy on detail and light on cumulative effect. It's just a little too busy.

But there are fabulous duos on both sides of this production number. The second features my man Nino, and the other two present the delectable

Kyle Kennedy, first with

a glamorous newcomer named Julian Pierce, and later with Spike, who gives another of his standout performances, this one sensationally aided by young Kennedy's ability to twirl, baby, twirl, on the masthead that is Spike's member.

Actually, twirling is a specialty of this movie. Seems Chi Chi agrees with me that one of the most excitingly cinematic sex shots is that of a guy straddling his partner while both face the camera. And Kennedy loves to bounce on his partner's dick, with his own improbably large cock banging about. Chi Chi's scenes are fre-

quently overedited, but he lingers over these moments. And he's lit the movie brilliantly, so every detail is visible.

Star spread

Nino almost misses the bus ride to Vegas while making out with sturdy, young and uncut Patrick Allen, who is real Abercrombie-Fitch material. The kid gets excellently boned, before he tops Nino, spreading the star's limbs wide open to lavishly display his fulsome attributes.

Kennedy fully deserves the star treatment he gets in opening and closing scenes. He's an angelic blond who looks at first like a kid, but who reveals a man's take-it-all sexual hunger, along with a big and solid cock. His first partner, Pierce, is real leading-man material. He's a svelte beauty with a low-key intensity and a burnished Mercedes-Benz body, with the buff and gorgeous rump and strong thighs of a dancer. The scene delights in the couple's asses, to which some luscious rimming is applied, followed by some forceful fucking.

The film's finale pairs Kennedy with the amazing Spike. His may be the most impressive cock ever featured in porn, and he cums like Old Faithful, geysers shooting out of camera range. But that's after Kennedy has done his best to savor it in all possible ways, most especially by sliding so slowly down each inch of it that you'll feel personally acquainted. Chi Chi's camera finds many a nifty viewpoint, framing the action to include the hard-ons and facial expressions of both guys. And he allows a full 24 minutes for the scene. I've criticized Chi Chi's general hurry before, but not in *Jacked to Vegas*, where the framework may be specious, but the sex is all there and sensational. ▼

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Karnal Knowledge

Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

is being sponsored by two Castro businesses. Over half the tables for the contest are sold already, and the contestants are hard running and already raising money.

John Bernal's "Meet the Contestants" beer bust and barbecue on Saturday afternoon raised just over \$1,000 for the Black AIDS Coalition; Houston Davenport's "Return to the Brig II" party two Sundays ago raised \$1,055. Eric Bernier staged a Mardi Gras party at the Edge this past Sunday, but at my deadline, there was no report on the amount raised, though I'm sure it was consider-

able. Chris Ross also had a successful fundraiser at Daddy's.

San Francisco's leather titleholders may hold positions of glamour, but that doesn't mean "jack" if they don't "produce." Dedicated leathermen don't rest on their laurel crowns—they get out and work, raise money, inspire others, make outreach and "bottom" to the community for one whole year.

I am happy to say that this year's group is upholding the traditions set forth by their predecessors. It should be a tight race, and I hope you are able to attend the contest on Friday, March 9.

Far and near

The Pantheon of Leather

with contrast, some melodic fragment that would lend delicious irony and remind us that this art-form was originally designed to go with music, not sound effects.

Soothing the Enemy featured floating UFOs and had some of the best lighting in dance, designed by Axel Morgenthaler. The women wore metallic minidresses, and the men, flying shirts. The movement offered shaking, rubbing, squatting, ice skating, and images of purgatory. Again, it was within a central duet—this one with two men, Burns and Alex Ketley, wearing feathered pants and no shirts—that we caught another glimpse of King's secret weakness: he still believes in beau-

ty. Every once in a while, two people will meet. The world stops, life takes a breath, the soothing begins.

For all his hard-edged choreography, King would be well-advised to soften things up more often. When he does, he reveals true choreographic brilliance. In King's work, the viewer doesn't get to linger in what is finally revealed at the core. It's how a lot of us live our lives. If only we could stop more often, and just love. ▼

Lines Ballet continues March 1-4 at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 701 Mission St. Call 978-ARTS.

Lines Ballet

◀ page 31

ty, which never quite works. King's aim, relentlessly, is toward momentum. One longs for a grace period.

Extension accord

Oh, for more moments like the one when the stage was suddenly full of sidelit women leaning into a dreamy unison phrase of stretched legs and wafting arms. The women have wonderful extension, but what we see is a tease, just a moment of simplicity before everything breaks apart. Likewise, the sound score could bless us

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Cornucopia in print

From 'ex-gays' to sex tips in new releases

by Deborah Peifer

We've all seen them, those hateful little so-called Christians, eager to turn us from happy homosexuals to dreary, robotic, religious heterosexuals. Rik Isensee offers a behind-the-scenes peek at an Exodus-like group called ESCAPE (Ex-Gays Saved by Charismatic Apotheosis Prior to Eternity) in his very funny novel *The God Squad* (Writer's Showcase, \$12.95), a journey from prayer to penance to redemption, that last thanks to the love of a good man.

Paul is a young man, confused about his sexuality, who runs away from home rather than come out to his mother, who, he fears, would approve of his being gay. After living on the street for a while, he is rescued by the Reverend Sly Slocock, who offers Paul the chance to ESCAPE the eternal damnation reserved for "those who indulge in the lust of defiling passion."

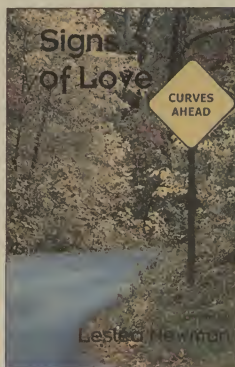
"The notion of going to hell for my homosexuality," Paul muses, "was new to me. Of course, I'd heard it condemned before, but I never realized God took it so personally." Paul plunges into the study of "homopathology," learns the tricks of not-tricking, and generally sticks to the rigidly straight

and narrow. He also spends time selling water filters (Sly's invention) in a sort of holy-roller pyramid scheme as a way to support the work of the group while fleeing the unfaithful. Isensee is clearly well-versed in the evil

done by the ex-gay movement, and if his book sometimes rings too true, it is, I suppose, because of the difficulty in parodying a movement that is so far over the top. *The God Squad* is an entertaining read.

A touch of the poet

Lesléa Newman is a writer of astonishing versatility and craft. Two of her early books of poetry which had gone out of print, *Signs of Love* and *Sweet Dark Places*, have been reissued in a combined volume, *Signs of Love* (Windstorm, \$12.95). "How to Be a Famous Lesbian Writer: An Autobiography-in-Progress" is a very funny and, I'm afraid, painfully accurate look at the travails of a writer's life. "Thirteen Ways of Looking at a Cat" expresses the reality of the lesbian nation: "All the lesbians/ are off to the music festival./ Who will take care/ of the cat?" "How I Want You" is the dearest and most romantic explanation of desire you'll ever read, and I wish I had a woman in my life right now just so I could read



her those words. No kidding, *Signs of Love* is breathtaking.

Sex factual

Isadora Alman has been answering readers' questions about sex since 1984, but in her latest book, she invites her readers to supply the answers. *Doing It: Real People Having Really Good Sex* (Conari, \$15.95) includes readers' e-mail, letters and comments on everything from doing it alone to doing it in a crowd to not doing it at all. Stressed about size? Anxious about orgasm? Alman's readers are practical people, offering help, reminiscences, and suggestions to make you happier in your sexual life, and in the rest of your life, too. The book is an entertaining collection of tips, but may be most



valuable simply as a reassurance that you are not the only person in the world who has ever...

Sex fictional

I've long believed that good erotic writing has to be more than just body parts and bodily fluids. I look for a sense of humor, vivid characters, a plot that has more going for it than just coming. Thankfully, Susie Bright shares this point of view, and her latest collection, *The Best American Erotica 2001* (Touchstone, \$13), includes short fiction that appeals to the in-



tellect and the pudenda. The thematic range is remarkable. Todd Belton's "Expanding on an Idea" is laugh-out-loud funny, while an excerpt from Marge Piercy's *Three Women* is as darkly disturbing as it is sexually charged. Dani Shapiro's "Bed of Leaves" is a sorrowful tale of a seriously-less-than-romantic first time. Bright is an editor of taste and skill, and *The Best American Erotica 2001* is a real find.

Miscellany

The Nazis made one of their concentration camps a showplace in an attempt to fool the world about what they were really doing to millions of Jews, Gypsies, gays, and other "undesirables." Theresienstadt was the camp, and in a preview of the 16th annual Jewish Music Festival, Sylvie Braitman discusses the music composed and performed by the prisoners at that camp. The presentation includes a screening of the Nazi propaganda film, *The Führer Gives a City to the Jews*. At the Main Library, March 7, 6-7:30 p.m.

A reader requested a mail order address for A.K.A. Doc: *The Oral History of a New Orleans Street Musician* (told by James May, AKA Doc Saxtrum, to Geoffrey and Ryan Edwards; Cadence Jazz Books, \$15). The book can be ordered from Cadence Jazz Books, Cadence Building, Redwood NY 13679. The phone number is (315) 287-2852; fax (315) 287-2860. ▼

If you have gossip, inquiries or information of a literary nature, send them to DeborahPeifer@msn.com, or via snail mail to the BAR.

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Berlin Film Fest

Arts cover

Anthony Hopkins at a Berlinale press conference if his carnivorous villain was homosexual, as he's accused of being in the film. Sir Hopkins replied with a wry smile that it was indeed a possibility one could contend with.

You'd be on safer gay ground with Sande Zeig's adaptation of theoretician Monique Wittig's short story, *The Girl*. This modern film noir, gloriously shot in Paris, tells of The Painter, a hot gal in men's suits, who falls for The Girl, a hot gal in gowns. The two make love and bathe nonstop, but eventually The Man, The Girl's boss, gets jealous and tries to have The Painter's lights punched out. Every scene here is breathtakingly planned out, and the leads are stunning to watch. Sadly, Zeig was more partial to pushing some inane philosophical concepts as opposed to entertaining us, and the film has as much excitement as a Cracker Jack box without a prize.

Lesson learned: You can read theoreticians. You can fuck theoreticians. Just don't adapt their work into movies.

Chop chop

Everyone's favorite photographer-turned-MTV-videomaker-turned-film-director, Bruce Weber, showed up with some *Chop Suey*. This is a staggering collage of some of the influences and people in Weber's model life. He takes us to a wrestling camp where he discovers the attractive and adorably shallow youth Peter Johnson, whom he makes into a national model. We also get to meet the British desert explorer Sir Wilfred Thesiger, and are then forced to peruse Weber's photo collection at high speed. But the really magical points are snippets of an interview with the late Diana Vreeland in her very red living room, and a superb look at the fascinating life of lesbian singer Frances Faye. When not chronicling these two gals, far too often Weber's camera is on overdrive, and you actually have to close your eyes to stop your stomach from churning. Some folks will call this film avant garde or blissfully trendy; others might settle for self-indulgent with moments of brilliance.

Another highlight for some was Ferzan Ozpetek's *Le Fate Ignorant* (*Blind Fairies*). This Italian-German production from the director who previously blessed us with *Steam* focuses on an AIDS nurse whose husband is killed by not one but two automobiles as he crosses the street. She gets depressed, until she learns he was cheating on her with a homosexual. That gets her really depressed, until she finds herself embracing the transsexuals, queens, and crazed immigrants that had peopled her hubby's world. Imagine an Almodovar film without sarcasm or whimsy. Not bad.

Jerry Springer might call Kate Davis' *Southern Comfort* an inside peek at Southern white trash transsexuals and their ilk, but this is an extremely soul-stirring documentary that has elicited a tear or two from even the most hard-boiled. Its star is Robert Eads. Born a girl, this wry soul transforms herself into a cowboy-hat-wearing gent who resides in the most rural part of Georgia. Finally able to live the way he wants with the friends he wants, Robert finds it slightly ironic when he is suddenly struck down by ovarian cancer. Apparently you can remove the breasts off a girl, but not her female gonads.

In *Le roi danse* (*The King is Dancing*), everyone is happy with their god-given gonads but little else. Directed by Gerard Corbiau, best known for his castrato drama *Farinelli*, this is another lavish costumer complete with lust that's served up both as repressed and on the table. Fourteen-year-old Louis XIV is not allowed to rule, but he can frolic all he wants to. But to frolic well, one needs the proper music, so the young bisexual Florentine composer Jean-Baptiste Lully becomes both the court composer and the king's pal. Their relationship changes, however, when Louis begins his reign and starts believing he is a god. Corbiau has fashioned a rococo, shimmering tale of a one-sided love that doesn't know whether it's based on true affection or ruthless ambition. The visuals are overpowering. As for the drama, it might help if you are a Francophile, a history buff, or a costume freak. But then, don't most of us fall into at least one of these categories?

Dark side

Hopefully, none of us will fall into *The Dark Side of Daren*. This is a 68-minute look at Maximilian Moll's relationship with an attractive, utterly boring and self-involved coke addict. You see Daren shaving his chest and cutting flowers in his LA yard *ad nauseam* throughout this dreary ordeal that had audiences running for the exits. This love letter to the lame gives banality a bad name.

One of the audience favorites came from Thailand. Yongyooth Thongkonthun's truly hilarious *Sa Tree Lex* (*The Iron Ladies*) is based on a true story. A group of drag queens, a sex change, and one heterosexual man decided to form a volleyball team, and, to everyone's dismay, they won the national championship. Expect this comedy to be a giant crossover hit in the States. It's superbly silly and effective.

Sue Maluwa-Bruce's graceful *Forbidden Fruit*, a 30-minute short, might be the most gutsy film to be shown at the Berlinale. This story of two rural lesbians who are separated after they're discovered kissing by a lake was shot in Zimbabwe. The actresses hired to play the two leads chickened out the day before shooting, so Bruce had to tell her tale by looking directly in the camera, and the conceit works.

Daren Minahan's *Series 7*, which garnered much praise in Sundance, creates a TV reality show where the winner has to kill all the other contestants. One is a formerly gay man with testicular cancer. It's a black comedy.

The Fluffer, directed by both Richard (Grief) Glatzer and Wash (Devil is the Bottom) West, is just a mess, another of those gay offerings where there's a great title, a



A scene from Yongyooth Thongkonthun's *The Iron Ladies*

sexy lead for the posters, and pure incompetence everywhere else. The melodramatic tale tells of a young man who rents *Citizen Kane* at a videostore and is accidentally given *Citizen Cum*. He

immediately falls in love with the lead, Johnny Rebel (Scott Gurney), and becomes the cameraman for the porn company. Soon he also becomes the fluffer for the stars who can't get it up. What has

comic potential instead turns into a sappy muddle complete with murder, drug addiction, and an abortion (another way to describe this effort).

Other features to note, coming your way to various gay festivals: In Hoang A. Duong's short, *Tom Clay Jesus*, a gay man finds that a newly-grown beard and a fake Hispanic name can find him love. Sandi Dubowski's *Trembling Before G-d* is a prize-winning documentary that explores the painful world of gay Orthodox Jews. RD Robb's terrific *Don's Plum* covers a night at a restaurant where a group of annoying 20-year-olds eat and bitch — sadly, two of its stars, Leonardo DiCaprio and Tobey Maguire, won't allow you to see it in North America. Leah Pool's frenzied *Lost and Delirious* stars Piper Perabo as a teen who falls for her roommate in an all-girl's school. All goes well, until her mate decides to turn straight; poor Piper will never be the same. Shelly Dunn Fremont and Vincent Fremont's raucous *Pie in the Sky: The Brigid Berlin Story* pursues the former Andy Warhol Superstar as she eats one key lime pie after another. A must-see, as were so many others. Those Germans really know how to serve it up, if you overlook the sauerkraut. ▼

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PARTING GLANCES

John Frank Fri 1/12 10:30pm
Waiting for restroom. You: white shirt, good looking, nice smile, well built. Me: gray/black sweater, beard, short hair. Would like to continue where we left off. ☎ 72805

Autocity Brushless Carwash
So. Van Ness, Wed. 17th, parted glances at the carwash. Gave you your cig. Remember your eyes, smile and more. What are the chances of getting together? ☎ 72819

1/7 Moma Anderson Collection
And Gay Mens Chorus 12/3. You 5'8" Asian. Me: 5'6", Caucasian. Lots of eye contact. Want to meet over coffee? Life's short- why not take a chance. ☎ 72821

19th St. @ Sanchez- Dan (?)
You gave me the best massage. I need your home #. Pls call. Mark ☎ 72806

Fubu Latin Man @ City Entainmt
Fri. 1/12, saw you later @ Shell Gas Station, I'm Latin guy w/N.Y. cap & white Audi. Let's connect? ☎ 72851

01/21 In Front Of Daddy's
You: Bill. Me- waiting for my friend to go to dinner. It was so rushed. Let's pick up where we left off. Call me! I know what I'm hungry for! ☎ 72823

Folsom Bookstore 1/9 7:45 pm
Me: black sweatshirt, army jacket. You: white shirt, beautiful vest, smile when you kiss. Your popper spilled. I blacked out. I'm humiliated, but need you in my bed. Second chance? ☎ 72807

Hole In The Wall Morning Of
Martin Luther King Day. Both briefly separated from friends. Me: leather. You: too, earlier. We'd had same kind of night. Sore. Friend took you away. Wanna meet again? ☎ 72820

Hickory St. X-Mas
U in kitchen and bartender: brown hair, brown beard, litr jacket & harness. I asked if your tits were real, you said they were completely organic. Call to make an opening. ☎ 72822

Eros Sun 1/21
Hi Tim, I introduced myself as we were leaving. I had a great time. Dinner, movie, one more time? Me: 38 blonde/blue 5'10", 185. ☎ 72872

The Dark Crystal, Suggested I,
For your students. We, sheltered from the freezing rain, huddled, humbled by freezing rain, numbing wind, shook hands. Let's heal our crystal. Plant your shard! ☎ 72848

Hot Cop @ SF Gay Parade 2000
You: Hep SF cop, GWM, salt & pepper hair. Me: GWM, grey beard. Hawaiian shirt- took your photo in Civic Center- would like your # & date. ☎ 72849

Friday 1/26am Div @ Fell St. Stop
Light Friday morning, stopped at light on Divisadero. Both looked as we continued. Me: black Toyota. You: black/blue car? I took right on GG Ave & waved. Let's meet- have date. ☎ 72850

1/23 Union City Century 25
"The Pledge" 7:55 show. You sat high in back wearing a light blue jacket, khakis, and black ankle boots. Do you prefer to watch alone or would you like some company? ☎ 72852

Hot Frenchman!
French guy desired for love and adventure by hung romantic blue eyed European in late 30's. Let's meet in San Francisco or Europe... ☎ 72919

"Steve", Please Call 'Joe' From-NYC
Mon. Jan 8, Golden Gate Park, sorry for the Big misunderstanding. I'm not playing games either. I don't have your telephone number. Let's try again. Please call. ☎ 72895

Dancing WhiteHorse 1/26
You: in my dreams, You: muscular, goatee, arm w/ tattoo, Latin features w/older glasses man. Me: shy, dancing within your vision & smile. Let's create magic... Friday!.. call ☎ 72853

Nate Poetry Teacher 23 Y.O.
You: Chinese Philosophy, History, Berkeley, BMW, bow ties. Matt would like to know you better. Your background intrigues me. Please let me know if it's mutual at China Cafe. ☎ 72874

1/8, "House Of Mirth"
At the Embarcadero Center. I would love to know more about "La Reine Margot." Haven't had a chance to read it myself. ☎ 72898

Brock, 2/8 'Uncle Berts Place'
We had great conversation about Eastern Europe. I may have a room for rent. Should have given you my number but your F-train arrived. Hope we can meet again! ☎ 72896

Joel- Who Lived On Hyde Street
Got evicted by G.B.- please call. ☎ 72897

Millie Grazie, Jano
Thank you for your kisses. Steve, Dolores St. Bar SF ☎ 72854

At The End Up Superbowl Sunday
Dancing in aisle, then you on dance floor. You: good dancer, blue eyes, dark hair, stylish. Me: longer hair, Latino, retro shirt, big shoes. Eyes met, cute smile. Wanna meet you! ☎ 72873

Lone Star IBR Wked 12:30am Sat. 2/17
You: White tee, salt & pepper hair & bushy goatee talking with three friends near patio bar. Me: blk leather jacket & cap, s/p beard; 5'11". Call me. ☎ 72920

UA Flight Den To SFO Tues 2/13
Flt. 1065 5:10pm, you, seat 336. Me: seat 33a. You live in Petaluma. Hating myself for being so bashful. Would love to spend some time with you! ☎ 72921

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

Erotic Liaison.
Sexy mature man seeks bossy, aggressive man, any age. We do what ever you say. Otherwise sociable & equal. ☎ 72808

Handsome Animal/Plant Lover
Kind, gentle, sensitive, strong, masculine, easy-going, playful, self-aware. Passion for nature, kissing, cuddling, sucking, homelife. Seek same who is a homeowner. I'm 48, youthful athletic, 6'2", 190lbs. Very good looking, shave head, moustache. ☎ 72809

Middle Age Black Gentleman
Seeks middle age Hispanic gentleman. I'm sincere, honest, discreet and have much to share. Big plus if you are husky and have dark hair, skin and moustache. ☎ 72810

Financially Secure Male Wanted
I am seeking a mate who is financially secure for a relationship or fun and good times. Call me. ☎ 72824

Mulatto Guy Sexy, Educated
Intelligent, and good looking. Seeking guys for a relationship or just plain fun. Let's get together. ☎ 72825

Love To Suck
Men 6' or more for a steady relationship. I'm 6'2", 165 GWM. Come after work or short time on weekends. I go deep and take it all! ☎ 72826

GWM 42 Good Heart!
Me: 6'3" green/blue eyes, 200lbs, s&p hair versatile btm - like music, movies & the good life! You: 30-45yo. sincere & fun HIV-only please. ☎ 72827

Concord Guy Seeking A Boyfriend
I'm a GBM 36yo, 5'8", 142lbs. Nice cock. Friendly, horny, and cute. Only for WGM 18 to 40. No fats. You won't be sorry! ☎ 72829

Real Person Wanted
36, professional, WM, sensitive, looking for friendship and maybe more. You 25-45, WM, down to earth and know what you are looking for in another. ☎ 72830

Top Dad ISO Hot Poz Boy 4 LTR
GWM 43, 6'0", 195#, s/p, hz, goatee, masc. top. UR: 38, Wh/Lat All-American boy w/edge- lean 2 musc, w/gtr butt. Vanilla 2 leather. ☎ 72831

Very Lonely Solano County Man
45yo WM affectionate, honest, sincere, loving, seeks similar to be a friend, maybe more; I like men with moustache; I look forward to your call. ☎ 72832

SWM- ISO HIV+ Man Over 32/ Top
ISO nice looking boyfriend over 30, HIV+ top open minded for more than sex. N/S ☎ 72900

VGL Latino Boy ISO Hot, Young
Generous dad type. Me: 5'7", 135, HIV+ bottom. You: stable, fun, 40-55, lit oriented, to spoil a good "boy". Please call. ☎ 72833

Hot French Love
French guy in 30's 40's desired for more than friendship by hung romantic blue eyed European in 30's. ☎ 72834

Yogi Bear Seeks Boo-Boo Bear
Handsome, romantic HIV- top 210# 6'1" brown hair green eyes 42, seeks HIV- btm bear cub 37-45 for dating, intimate encounters and possible ltr. N/S, N/D pref. ☎ 72855

2001 Odyssey
Befriend this sensuous senior who will transport you into outer space. 5'11", 150, hazel eyes, wavy hair, great kisser. Prefer slim Latinos or Asians. Let's wine, dine, romance in Hayward. ☎ 72856

HIV+ Latin Male
39, 5'8", 155 brn, brn eyes looking for ltr with HIV+ male Latin or White. Me top- very open minded and enjoy a good looking man's company. Call if interested. ☎ 72857

HIV+ Blacks, Latins, Puerto Ricans
Wanted by HIV+, blond/blue, 5'10", 160lbs. versatile bottom, 44yrs. genuinely honest & loving, in good shape, no fat guys. You be similar. I live near Chico, I'm willing to travel, please call me. ☎ 72875

"Teach Me!"
Bi-guy 40, smooth, clean, nice buns, HIV- vgl 6', 175lbs, bottom, closeted, seeks HIV-m top, your place. ☎ 72876

Raver/Urban Hipster Types
Me: 35, GLM 5'10", 135 dark brown hair eyes. Nice worldly. You: light eyes. Nice personality smile. No heavy drugs. Cuddly, romantic, passionate. Sagittarian friendly. Like dancing. ☎ 72877

Attention Big Tall Guys
Are you hung enough to try my pink hole? Lean Asian 30's moustache; sparse hair, wanted to get plowed deep and hard all the way. Fantasy fulfilled only for you. ☎ 72878

Attn: Daytime Cock Suckers!!
Got some free time and would love a perfectly beautiful 7" cut cock w/big low hangers to suck on. Mature gentlemen can provide this. HIV- glory hole available. ☎ 72879

Hot Hair Muscle Dad
5'8", 170lbs 46, dark hair, 9 uncult top seeks White, Latins, Asian, son 21-35 bottom, slim a plus HIV- N/S, N/D into bars. For ltr. ☎ 72880

Cautious, Continutious, In-
Shape 40 yr GWM 6'2"-180) loves mutual butt munching & /o, nice guy seeks another equally clean, disease free and capable serial monogamy for ongoing unhiliated encounters. ☎ 72828

Rancher Seeks Cowboy
Rural living, rural lifestyle rancher 40's, 5'10", 180# masculine seeks to meet decisive, together non mainstream man, no drugs or disease for possible LTR. ☎ 72901

Taco Seeks Hot Dog
Latino, 48, 5'6", 151# ISO GWM, 35-65, My interest: jogging, pro-sports, films, politics, classic rock, dylan. Into: oral, kissing, rimming. Sense of humor and hairy chest a plus. ☎ 72902

"Your Place Or Mine?"
Healthy, good natured guy-weight proportioned, average looks, seeks same for fun times near Russian River or your place. Friendship or possible LTR. ☎ 72903

Mendocino County Ukiah
40yr old Latin, good looking, caring, compassionate. Likes to party. Seeking gay male 35-50 for serious relationship. You must like to party. Sincere only please. ☎ 72904

Santa Rosa Area SF On Wk Ends
Seeking other hard bodies, I'm 47, handsome smooth 39" c, 29" w, 145# sincere, spiritual, strong & loving. Enjoy hot tub, massage & hot sex. ☎ 72906

Asian
Attractive GAM, 53yo. slim, 5'7", affectional seeking older GWM for LTR. Like cooking, traveling, quiet times. No smoking. ☎ 72924

Poz GAM Seeks Fuckbuddy
Athletic bubblebutt Asian 30's seeks fit GWM/GLM to 35 tops. I'm already in LTR & discreet, good kisser, bottom v-attractive. Can meet week-nights. Let's fuck! ☎ 72908

Black Men Who Seek White Man
Me: 5'8", 155 very loving, sexually bottom seeks BM who enjoys travel, movies, theatre and enjoying simple things with his loving male. ☎ 72923

Thoroughly Decent Soul
Desire more than hot versatile sex with honest available man 35-45. Me handsome, creative, musician, fit 6'/190 42yo/gr eyes Afro-American heritage but with White Skin! ☎ 72922

BAR TALK

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Latino Encounters
Looking for GWM 5'10", 165#. 72905

I Exist- Do You?
SWM, cute, athletic, 42/6/175, HIV- Neg, br/br, hairy, clean & horny, looking to serve similar attractive, clean, hung, & HIV neg dude. My place in SF. No reciprocation necessary. LTR possible. 72899

Top Fuckbuddy Wanted
GWM, HIV+ bottom; ISO HIV+ top, for erotic man to man pleasure play. Me, bl, hzl, 6'1", slim. 72858

Heart & Soul Hung Big Fun, playful, attractive, 37, 6'1", 177# br/gr, clean-shaven, Dutch background, HIV-, publisher, own flat, Lands End Trail, Bass Lake, heated pools, naked massage, Plush Room divas. Favorite food: Cioppino. Favorite Book: Home & health 1887. 72925

Lonely? Looking For A Friend?
Shy GWM, 57, 5'10", 165#, in San Francisco looking for companionship with another man who may or may not have the same problem getting to know other people. 72926

SEEKING ADVENTURE

So Far Still Straight But....?
38yr old Italian Irish 5'8", 165lbs, 31" waist 7"x5" cut huge, head shaved balls and ass, bikini tan line, masculine, good looking seeks hung Black cocks and ass. 72811

I Love My Dad/ 5'9" 190lbs 42
GWM seeks very hairy daddy-types 40-60 for romance and fun. Very oral, affectionate & cute. Must have fun & outgoing personality. 72812

Skinhead Muscibear Wrassler
Hairy goateed skinhead wrassler bear ISO romper brwlin' bears and stomper agro skins into NHB wrassler and fightin' for top bareassed in boots; leather; stny; military kit; belts; chains. 72813

Big Man Bottom Into Butt Play
Straight acting 6'2"-210lb. looking for tops into FF, toys, open to other play. 72814

I Am Looking For Hung Guys!
I am seeking guys who are hung at least 9-inches or larger for fun and good times. Please give me a call. 72835

Versatile Fuckbuddy Wanted
45, 6'2", 195 HIV+ wants fuckbuddy. Vanilla to kinky & SM/leather prefer, fit to husky creative Black, White, Latin men, cut with nipple & jack fetish a plus. 72860

East Bay
Appreciative, mature Academic male seeks Gay, Straight, BI, exhibitionist or curious, 25-50 for private encounters at his home. 72846

Italian Guys! I Am Seeking
Just the right Italian guy for fun and a good time. If you are hung or good looking a plus. Call me. 72836

I'm A Sucker For Older Men
BI WM looking for older, senior men-50's, 60's, 70's. Black, White, Latino, Asian- Straight, Bi, gay. Not getting enough at home? I like it cut, big + floppy. 72837

Handsome Hung Italian
Super endowed 10" seeks another HIV negative extremely well hung man for oral sex. 72838

Uncut? Over 55? Gay Or Straight
Will suck you off in my Noe Valley flat. Evenings-weekend. Professional-discreet. Hairy A+. Regular weekly sessions? HIV-. 72839

Age 46 But Hung And Horny Man
Needs good head 2-3x weekly. Oakland area. Please no voicemail, beginners, games, beards or goates. All ages, races and body types welcome, if serious. 72840

"Fuck Me, Daddy!"
Blond, in-shape, 45yo/bot/son seeks hung, 60+ top/dad into working my tight clean butt-hole. 72841

Great Blow Job
Tall, cute 36yo hungry cocksucker seeks 28-48yo hung thick guy to suck off regularly. Prefer easy-going guy of any race with slim to medium build. Like verbal encouragement. 72842

Wanted- Fuck Buddy
Good-looking GWM 43 (looks 35), short dark hair, moustache, smooth body, and blue eyes seeks a hot fuck buddy for occasional get togethers. Must be under 35, good looking. All nationalities welcome. 72843

B & D And/Or S & M Mentor Sought
Curious guy seek intro from man to woman. Meet for coffee? This will be my only ad. 72844

Whit Guy Lke 2 Submit 2 Bk Guys
47, large white guy, 5'8" light brown hair, green eyes, good looking, total bottom needs to be dominated by Black guy. Nasty talk and come kink is good. 72845

Ride My Bushy Moustache
& feel my tongue up your butt. Me: 6', 165# br/blu 42. Your: hot and ready. 72859

Young Boys For Training
This very cute boy from Europe will under go any type of training you or your friends will decide. Must be in your 20's or 30's. 72885

Joint Vonture
GF seeks GM whom needs a friend. Your European or Asian. Let's talk!! 72861

E/B Versatile White Male
Well proportioned, mature, HIV-, 5'7", 150, ISO HIV- versatile males in E/ So Bay. Safe Sex. Your age/ race/ looks/ marital status, not important. Please no games or pagers. 72862

FF Bottom Wanted
If you also love to suck dick for long time, the world is yours guy. Also into fucking, rimming (clean), w/s, bondage and CBT. If you fit this profile, you're in for a great time. 72863

Fist Fucking Hands Video's
Make me copy of any ff video you have, in return, I'll fuck you while viewing. 72864

FF Butts Wanted
Make me copy of any ff tape. My med hands up your butt for hours BM+ welcome. 5'9", 185. 72865

Mature GWM ISO Fisting Buddy
Older, in-shape and sleazy versatile fister looking for versatile fisting buddies for regular sessions. Age/race not important. Let's trade fists. 72861

Naked Beer Drinking
Need a masculine lean bodied guy to drink beer with as I take care of your oral needs or vice versa. Lean WM 42 likes younger or same age. Hairy a plus. 72863

"Seniors"
I'm a WM 6' 165lbs. 45yo & I enjoy giving sensual oral pleasure to seniors; one on one or in groups. Kink optional. Bearded, non-buffed, rugged looking A+. No pain, S&M, gay scenes, drugs but smoking ok. 72864

I Love My Dad/ 5'9" 190# 42 GWM
Seeking kind, sexy, very hairy daddy-types 40-62 for sincere romance, fun & passion. Love to cuddle and kiss. Must have fun & outgoing personality. 72866

35 GAM Seeks GWM
You, 30-42, GWM like bedtime stories. Me: 5'8", 160lbs; like to be bottom call if interested. 72887

Working Stiff Seeks Massage Buddy
Would love good, deep tissue rubdown but can't afford it. Want like-minded pal to exchange once or twice 2 week, full body, serious, but fun. 72888

On My Knees
46yr old, HIV+ healthy, 5'8", 160, br/bl, g'lee loves to be on my knees giving oral service. My age or older. Muscular, hairy A+ Oakland/SF. 72889

Seeking Serious Nipple Wkout Buddy
46yr old stocky, 190# bear btm, nip pig with huge erect nips brn/bm, tats, piercing, salt & pepper, goatee, smoker, masc muscular dominant nip-pig "bear daddy" for serious nip workout sessions. 72890

GWM 45, 5'9" 180 Bn/Bn Clean
Shaven with smooth med bld. avg. masculine looks, wants to meet men for friendship, play, easy going very oral. 72908

Love to Service Mankind
Handsome, tall, in-shape, 43-yo, bottom loves taking it deep. Seeking dominant top, 30-55, masculine, HIV-, into light SM with affection. Hairy, endowed A+. 72909

Erotica For You
Latino American hot and handsome looking for a GWM 6 feet and up for some fun and steamy night. 72910

Filipino Top Wanted
GWM 40 is seeking a Filipino top for fun. Any age. Looks not important. 72882

Strapon Topman
Dildo in harness belt welded by strong masc Oakland WM, 54, 5'8", 175# bald beard for prolonged customizab dominant penetration of younger smaller athlete. No drugs. 72911

Size Queen Sks Hung Top
GWM, 40ish needs a good workout. 72912

I Like To Shove My Big Dick
Down a guy's throat, and I like them to love it. I can go for hours. Can you? Mature, hairy pluses. 72913

Palo Alto GAM 44, 5'11" Bk-Brn
185 likes giving oral in secluded area within mid Penin. to Santa Clara. Prefer thick members 7in to 9in w/o recip. 3pm-2am. 72914

Hairy Ex Marine Daddy
Masculine 6ft, 210 into hot oil erotic free massage, oral service, rimming, shaving for masculine in-shape muscular guys only. 18-40. Just lay back and enjoy!! 72915

Latin/Mexicans
I really like servicing my Mexican friends. W/M, 50, 5'11", 180. Do it your way- often and regulars. Married or single. 30-45. HIV neg. No drugs. 72916

Good Old Fashioned Sweaty Sex
With hairy chested GWM, seek similar guys for all-nighters. Let's go at it! 72917

Formerly "Pete" On Sanchez Street
Will be visiting SF March 15-22, hot, horny, Italian, 6', 200#, goatee & mst, very versatile, lv. a msg. Let's get together. 72929

Sexy Guys Wanted By Cock Slut
ISO sexy guys W/B to share my girl slut secrets. Be my part-time nasty boyfriend. Bi/W/M discreet, 31y/o 5'10", 185#, attr, shaved, into all nite uninhibited partying, love to pose for camera. All male xxx video. 72927

Low Hanging Ball Fetish
Bi curious W/M seeks smooth clean shaven A/W. You j/o yourself. I like and suck your loose warm balls. You be patient, understanding, submissive. 72928

LESBIAN

GAM Seeks GAF For Support
Came from traditional family. Seeking Asian females in the same situation to discuss option in helping each other. 72815

FETISHES

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Get your asshole eaten by a pro!! 72816

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Deep throat expert has 6-pack for well endowed men who will quench his thirst with hot golden liquid. 72817

Oral Fetishes
WM 44, 6', 160lbs. dk hr. The sight of someone sucking on eyeglass stems, pens, etc. turns me on & make me submissive. All types welcome. 72818

Pig Hole, Begg For Nasty Foul Mouth
Top fist pig. Make it yours. The ultimate hole, proud to show off- This hole is serious, you be too. Punch me crazy if your serious and want a hole you turn into the biggest sloppiest hole, the kinkier the better. I want to be able to take anything you want to give, no limits I can think of- the strangest the better. 72847

Cowboy Leather Fetish
Handsome, clean professional man 48 collects cowboy chaps, spurs, custom boots, gloves, hats, vests and seeks men with same fetish for friendship, fun and cowboy games. 72866

I Get Down And Get Under
Under you I lick, suck and deep French kiss your hot asshole. Take your seat and enjoy. White, brown and yellow recycling. Your place, your way. Quickies, or prolonged sessions. 72867

Quench My Thirst
Looking for guys who want to piss in my mouth. 60yo, 5'10", 170lbs, in good shape, thirsty. 72893

Daytime Asshole-Eater!!
Get your asshole eaten by a pro!! 72868

6 Spurts? 7/8/9? Bingo (10)?!
Great cocksucking means more spurts. Let me show you how great I am. Spurts speak louder than words. Will I make you a 10? 72869

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Young Slave From Europe
Very cute and obedient Mediterranean boy into spanking, FF, slave/dog training, etc. Must be in your 20's or 30's only. 72892

My Feb. Birthday Bi Threesome
Me: bi, HM, 53, ISO young bi-men (18-20) only for day time fun, discreet, clean-sober, 69, French, Greek, jack-off!! 72894

Submissive And Fantasy??
Non-hunk GWM 50's, HIV-, smoker, top fra/p, 6'1", 200#, non-gym, 14ee feet looking for cut GM who can service with loyalty, respect, and touch of fantasy. 72918

Compassionate Cocksucking!!
Thank Pres. W (you yoyo) for your one contribution maybe ever. Hey guys---this is the story that asks the question: "Am I your best cocksucker yet?" Answer: yep! 72930

Daytime Asshole-Eater!!
Get your asshole eaten by a pro!! 72931

ISO Foreskin (X-Tight To Loose)
UB W/M, L/M, A/M. Must be slim! Age/size unimportant but your waistline is. I'm older W/M, 6', 186lbs. Also deep tongue clean ass-holes. My place. 72932

Thirsty Bootlicker!
Mature, submissive, respectful foot worshiper has hot tongue, mouth, deep throat to service you. 72933

OTHERS

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Do you have a home, gym or private workout area? Am seeking naked workout partner in 415 or 650. Me: fit/WM/37 something seeking good workout. 72871

Latex Love
Play safe! Wear a condom and never exchange bodily fluids. 72872

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Let's do the time warp again

by Victoria A. Brownworth

When Bill Clinton ordered an air strike on Iraqi territory two years ago, seemingly without provocation, the media accused him of using politics to deflect attention from the Lewinsky scandal. When George Bush ordered an air strike on Iraqi territory last week, seemingly without provocation, the media called it a daring show of statesmanship.

Huh?

Six weeks into the new Administration, it appears Dubya will have the longest honeymoon in presidential history. The Sunday morning talkfests praised both his air strike and first month in office. Almost no one inside or outside the Beltway is criticizing the new Prez. Perhaps because everyone is still fixated on the old one.

As Clinton continues to headline the news, we are reminded of the old Reagan saw, "There they go again." Even a military air strike couldn't deflect attention from Clinton. When Bush held his first

press conference last week, he was asked about Clinton. When he held joint press conferences with Mexican President Vicente Fox and British Prime Minister Tony Blair, he was asked about Clinton.

On *Meet the Press*, former Clinton Chief of Staff John Podesta, barely controlling his anger at rapid-fire questions from Tim Russert about the pardons that won't die, noted with some bitterness, "I guess we're going to spend the next four years the way we spent the last eight" — vilifying Clinton and refusing to acknowledge all Clinton accomplished.

And are we the only ones to have noticed the barely veiled anti-Semitism of the whole pardon debate? Interesting how of nearly 500 pardons Clinton granted, the only ones in question — Marc Rich, the Hassidim from New York, and so forth — are all Jews.

Meanwhile, *Saturday Night Live* skits of Bush, Clinton, Denise Rich, et al. have been savagely funny and all too true. Though we wish *The West Wing* were the real White House, it appears the *SNL* White House is actually the real deal.

Speaking of *SNL*, queer TV has truly arrived: Sean "Flamin' Jack" Hayes hosted last week's show. Any doubts that he's a flamer off the set of *Will & Grace* must now be put to rest. Queen for this and any other day, Hayes was hilarious, but it's clear the role of Jack

isn't too big of a stretch for the multi-talented (he plays a mean piano, and this white boy can dance and jump) Hayes.

On Hayes' show, *SNL* premiered a new faux commercial for "Homocil" (patterned on the Paxil ads) — a drug to help parents of queer children adjust, "Because it's your problem, not theirs." Funny and politically correct. *SNL* really needs to do a compilation video of their faux ads — and Homocil should be in every queer video library.



Outback & About

Speaking of queer video libraries, is it just us, or is every guy but Keith on the

Lavender Tube

new *Survivor* a queen? Poor queeny Mitchell got voted out last week after a double tie at tribal council (a first) when he admitted he was just too drained from the whole experience. Even the tabloid *Globe* ran a story on the queer controversy. According to the *Globe*, there's another queer on the show, but producer Mark Burnett edited out the revelation because he didn't want *Survivor II* to look like a carbon copy of the original. No Richard Hatch redux, here.

Of course, everybody loves Colby, the studly queer Jerri can't wait to bed, but we like Nick the African American interior (posterior?) decorator. We'll see what comes out in the end — so to speak. We do find this round of *Survivor* more vicious than the last. And we were totally creeped out by the pig kill. PETA was right on this one — and so was Kimmi.

Speaking of pigs, the Grammy controversy over Eminem (yawn) and Elton John was more tempest in a teabag. Marshall still won for his album and John just proved what everyone but GLAAD has always known — he sells to the highest bidder. (Memo to Sir Elton: Plaid looks good on very few. You are not one of them.)

The only real scandals from the Grammys were Toni Braxton's "dress" (where would these girls be without double-sided tape?) and that people still think Britney Spears has talent. The sad little coterie of GLAAD-handers outside bitching about Eminem still don't know that homophobia is a basic tenet of rap and hip-hop. And hello, word to your Mama: Eminem ain't the rapper spewing that crapper.

Speaking of crap, Ellen DeGeneres' over-hyped appearance on *Will & Grace* did a lot to re-

mind people of why her show was canned. She's just not funny anymore. In one of the season's weakest *W&G* episodes, DeGeneres, playing a nun and sadly writing her own dialogue, lamely staggered through three painful scenes with the ordinarily hilarious Eric McCormack and Debra Messing. After having seen Anne Heche last month in a stellar performance in the TV-movie *One Kill* with Sam Shepard and Eric Stoltz, it's safe to say the buzz about who really had the talent was sorely misplaced. Heche won an Emmy for a reason. Ellen's just capitalizing on her queerness. We kind of liked her better when she was still in the closet — and funny.

'Grosse' indecency

The appearance of Sarah Michele Gellar (*Buffy, the Vampire Slayer*) playing herself on the WB's bitchy soap-set spoof *Grosse Pointe* was fun, but for those waiting for the Big Kiss, a Big Letdown. Gellar was supposed to be interested in Marcy (Lindsay Sloane, formerly the closet interest of *Sabrina, the Teenage Witch*, back when it was on ABC and one of the gayest shows on TV); the condition of her making an appearance on *Grosse Pointe* was that she get to kiss Marcy in the storyline.

In makeup, the bitch goddess Hunter (Irene Molloy) tells Marcy to forget the dyke drama. "There's only room for one Sapphic celebrity in this town, and her name is Ellen. Why do you think Anne had to switch teams?"

Mixed messages and double entendre abound, but when Marcy plunges in and kisses the Buffster after a few cosmoes, Gellar yells whoa. "Save it for the camera!" When a confused Marcy claims she thought Gellar wanted her, Gellar replies, "I want an Emmy nomination, and since I'm never going to get one for *Buffy*, I thought this kiss would give me a good shot."

While this is the kind of truth-telling about the industry that makes us love this show, we still had hoped for a real kiss between Sloane and Gellar. Ah well, there's always Tara and Willow on *Buffy*.

Speaking of which, we liked seeing Xander and Willow making eyes at the same beautiful robot girl. Willow is firmly out of the closet as queer, and we are loving it. And are we the only ones to have noticed Tara (Amber Benson) is so much prettier since she's been doing girls?

Speaking of doing girls, the love affair between *ER*'s Carrie (Laura Innes) and Kim (Elizabeth Mitchell) is heating up. ▼

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Chad & Travis Photos Courtesy of Falcon Studios

Taboo

◀ Arts cover

tasy and reality.

In the '60s, the young Oshima used a potent mix of sex and violence to depict the futile hopes of a lost generation of Japanese youth who decried what it meant to be Japanese, and yet failed to cope with what it meant to be a modern individual. In *Taboo*, the samurai unit represents the last generation for whom the art of the sword will mean power and the ability of honorable men who live by ancient rules to change the course of history. Oshima uses the sexual lure cast by the almost girlishly beautiful Kano to represent both the disruptive reality of homoeroticism in an all-male universe, and the forces of history and technological change that would alter the world of the

samurai beyond all recognition.

Kano kills with both his sword and his penis. At times, *Taboo* displays the cheeky sensual low comedy of *Tom Jones*. Especially hilarious is a sequence of scenes where an older officer seeks to domesticate Kano by taking him to a geisha house, only to have the knowing geisha suggest that the officer bed Kano himself.

Taboo benefits greatly from the coltish energy of its two young stars, the dangerously enchanting Matsuda as Kano, who meets his match in the swordsmanship and cocksman-ship of the dashing handsome Tadanobu Asano, as Kano's lover/opponent Hyozo Tashiro. It's as if two featherweight boxers were to fall in love and fight to the death. *Taboo* is that special. ▼

Taboo opens March 2 at the Castro Theatre.

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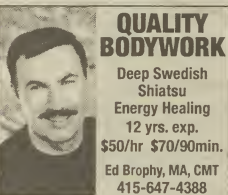


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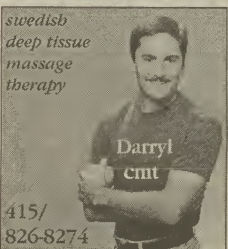
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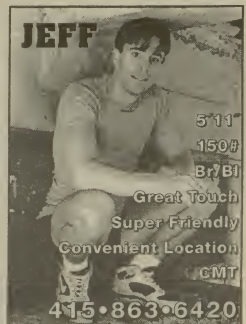
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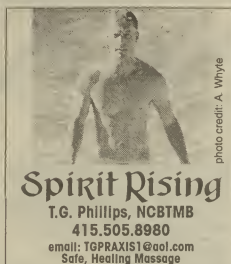


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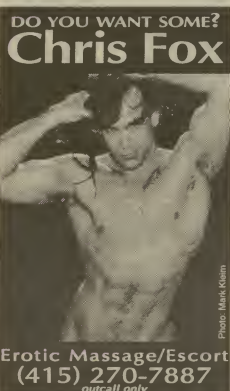
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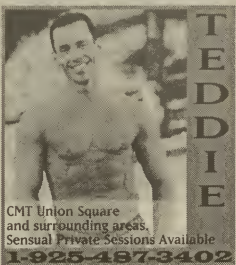
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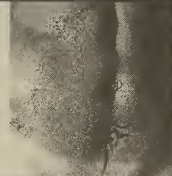


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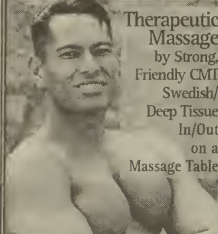
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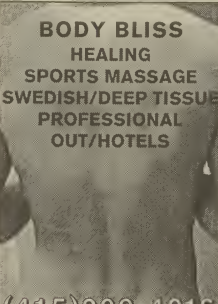
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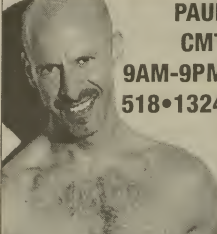
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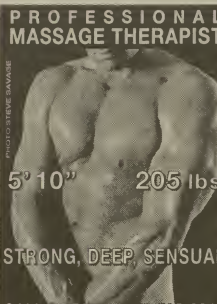
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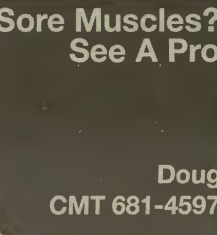
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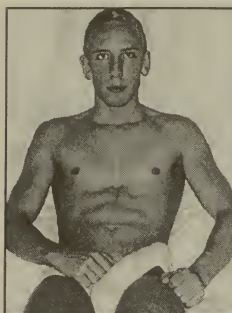
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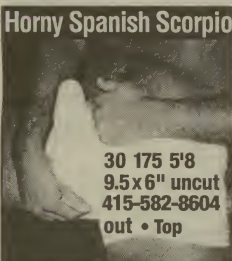
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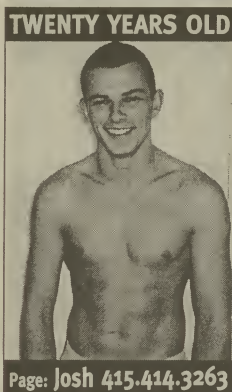
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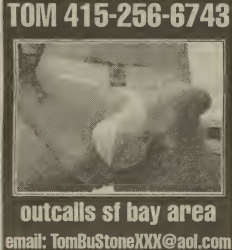
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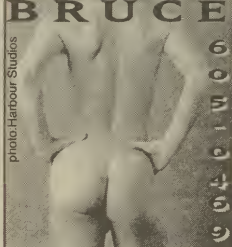
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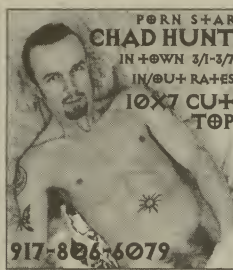
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Discreet & Passionate In/Out
Dean 415-307-9123

FORCEFUL PLOWING
Byhot hung top pg 888 215 2268

KINKY BLACKTOP
Hot, hung and ready. Private and dis-
creet Tony (510) 336-1999

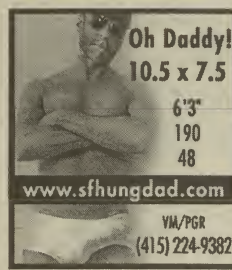
Handsome 24yo w/packed shorts
SOCCER JOCK
Lean, athletic body-top/vers.
Kevin pg# 605-5328 in/out 24/7

EROTIC NUDE MESSAGE
By good klng, blind/bl, 6' swimmer.
Friendly, sexy, tender to raunchy
100 in/more out. EZ freeway + Bart
Brad (510) 418-0979 (in Berkeley)

Buzzcut, 46, gymbody, tats, sensual
into most scenes, in/out 596 3377

doll punq Ruck delux rub/scene
in SanFrance call MAN-MAXT

Butt massage w/toys full body
pleasure by boyish C.M.T 596-3377



BOTTOM WANTED
BIG THICK JUICY TOOL
VINCENT 415.431.6253 \$110



33 5'8" 150 toned hairy tattooed
JEFF'S FIST IS BACK
Experienced Reliable Small hands
Jeff 415-215-8396 Out Only
http://come.to/jeffsist

CORNFED & HUNG
29 year old midwest boy
5'10" 160, military cut, tight
body, ripped abs, hung 9 thick
cleancut, vers, in/out 902-9477

INTERESTING
Wild, wierd, hot, not shy In/out
Travel 24hrs 415-208-8099 now!

YES SIR!!
Musclr bottom to serve you
Take control page Nick 709-1467

WANT IT ROUGH?
Lean smooth leather top, 32,
gives it like you need it. Sling
FF/SM/BD/WS/TT, humiliation.
PAGE JACK 219-5608

BIG-BLONDE-BEAUTIFUL
6'2", 160# 9"x5" sexy green eyes
Out \$150 Nicholas 415-939-9112
All fetishes welcome- Call me!

HOT NUDE
SERVING VALLEJO E.BAY
6'2" 200# Italian 35 yrs old
Well hung. Gives erotic, sensual
massage in the nude. Ph Anthony
at (707) 648-8808

Verbal oraltop kicks back/service
10X6"*UNCUT****
Role play *830-7745* out only 24hrs*

RICAN&BLKMALE
Versile, 23yrs 5'11" 170lbs muscular
hazel eyes, tatoos very sexy
very attractive 10 1/2 cut out only
\$200 call Angelo 510-508-1977

COLLEGE BOY
Fun & friendly 19yrs Flip-His.
5'6", 130#, boyish build & cute.
Call me 24hrs Troy 415 816 9401

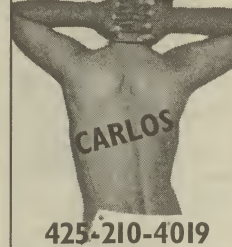
Handsome masculine hung dude
KICKS BACK FOR YOU
5'11" 175 br/gr 30's 8" days ok
Soma- Randy 864-7811 \$75/in

Young, great, staying power 792-8028
VIETNAMESE STUD

HOT MASCULINE BOY
24yrs. 5'11", 165 lbs. Sexy
dark hair/eyes great butt- 8" cut
Fred- 415-948-5191- Out only

S/M SENSUALITY
-long, & slow- my specialty.
6'2", 185, strong, gymtoned
master into all aspects &
degrees of leatherplay.
S/M, B&D, FF, WS, raunch.
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ATTRACTIVE MAN
Top-Versatile Firm Butt
Uncut Out



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Very handsome masc & well- hung
SHVD HEAD STUD
28yo well hung w/big balls for
oral enthusiasts* Clint* 540-5311
24 hrs. In/call or out. Very hot

DAVID 790-0079
28 yo, 6'2", 175lbs. 9x6 uncult
http://www.escorts4you.com/them
en/CA/david.html

SXY DADDY 39
BTFL UNCUT 8"
YNG HORNY MUSCL TOP
VRY GD LOOKING FRENCH MEDITER.
HNDSM-HAIRY W/GOATEE
5'9"-165#*533-9143*

Hot straight skateboarder and
BMX-Biker needs help shooting
HIS HUGE SCHLONG!!
Outcalls 415-289-6843 voicemail
STR8-R SK8TR

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Hot fine ass. Genuinely handsome.
Sweatish Accupressure. 5'11" 175lbs.
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HOT
Real handsome -extra hung stud
Great bod, friendly, near dwntn
33, 190, 9x6. 415-219-4866

STATUE OF DAVID
Sculpted smooth
6'185 blond adonis
Hot cleancut classical good looks!!!
Loves ass worship. In/out 310-2930

Handsome, sexy, Italian stud 6'
175lbs. 8" versatile 9am-11pm
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Stays hard and long lasting.
Older and heavy men welcomed.
Out only
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Hungry?
Call Peter at 577-6685.
(See photo-ad in this issue.)

145lbs nice-looking/versatile
SEXY PUNK BOY
Many scenes/yum! Bob 251-1643

WWW.HUNGTHICK.COM
Jason Harper in SFO

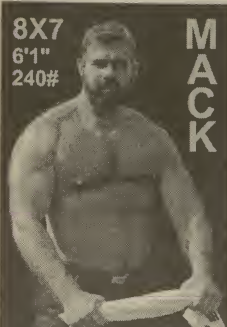
Naked runner oral top big balls
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PERSONALS

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8X7
6'1"
240#

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6' 230# In/Out
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luke steel


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Serious only please.

Hot x-smth Asian bottom 5'8", 140
swimr bdy bubl-butt also 4 bong
fists spankg etc. Joey 560-6353

HOT SALSA
Sexy slender Latino easygoing
Out only 415 789-8094

SLEAZY TOP DUDE
Hot 23yo goateed, drk hair, luv's 2
hammer that bone till u scream
4 mercy. SF/top out only. 251 0340

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BD- SM-Elect ro-stim- the expert!
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Handsome hung Italian 34, 6', 160
CHOKE ON THIS!
Tight lean bod hairy chest/legs
all top masc dominant real 10x7
gentle strength & arousing edge
intlgnt, verbal, kink-2-vanilla
outcalls/hotbuds/travlr Bay Area
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Muscular tight 7" thick gd lks
24yo br. hr/grn eyes 5'11" 150 lbs
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GBM 9.5x6uc 415.253.8080 \$200

BOY NEXT DOOR!
Cute friendly 20yr old boy next
door 6'3", 195# hot and ready to go.
Truly versatile and expd out only. All
credit cards acpt. Call me now!
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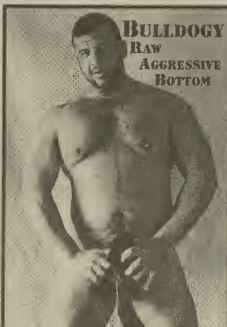
real man, real horny
415 998 8087

RAW MUSCLEBEAR
Aggressive, passionate bottom. 37,
5'11", 235#, 48" c, 18" a, 28"
thighs, 8x6. Intimidating looks w/a
teddybear heart. Nick 415-595-7348
(In/Out)

HUNG TOP 8.5X6 FOR SVC
For svc/play. Dom/masc, frndly, 36,
\$150 Marc 643-6495

SEXY SEXY SEXY
Handsome hung sexy smooth jock
Hot musclebod, pumped & edible
415-219-0726 Chase

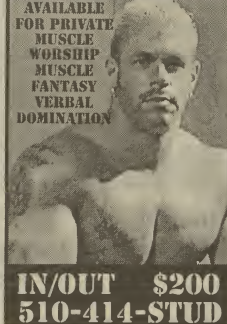
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AGGRESSIVE
BOTTOM



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BUILT EXECUTIVE
Conservative/suit out of suit: wild/ tats
verbally/physically Dom, 35yrs, well hung
Out only evenings/days weekends/
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Sexy str8 & very attractive
5'9", 180lbs muscular & fit
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Smooth blonde hot 22 yo 5'7" 135
SXY NEW BOYTOY
Hot & horny boy Jason 372-0570

20 yo college boy, 5'11", 150,
8" c/thick. Smooth defined swimmers
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26, 6'2", 215, uc, top in SF, out only
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SEXY LATINO
Eduardo 415 406 7341 Out only

AFFECTIONATE
STUD
25 GWM 6' Solid 190lbs 32wst
7" cut BubbleButt Cleancut
Masculine Versatile IN & OUT
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HOT ENGLISHBOY 23YO
Slim smooth cute blond bottom
Got fantasies? Page Alex 790 3773

HOT CHINESE STUD
25yo, 5'11", 172lbs, big, uncut, top,
smooth, suave, playful 415 251-0261

27 YO LATIN 8" UNCUT
5'7", 130# top Franc \$100 Pgr 251 2723

33yo 5'5", 130# 8.5", thick
So. Italian top - out only
Angelo 415-414-4664

BARE IT FOR A BEAR
Luscious pink buds above, fuzzy
low-hanging peaches below-it may
still be Winter, but this tree's in
bloom. Top & cuddly, 5'8", 339-7465

Chiseled Bi Boy
*** **JUSTIN** ***
25yo, 6', 165#, dk hr, cut body
Outcalls onl \$100. ~11am-11pm--
PGR * 251-0204

Hot hung masculine uncut, out only
HANDSOME LATINO
All scenes page Ricco 540-8612

Dominant Leatherman
Bondage, 41yo,
SM, WS, 6'1", 195#,
CBT, Brown Hair,
F/F, flat top,
Fetish, Blue Eyes,
Slave mustache,
Training, 7" Uncut.




Beginners Welcome
Have equipment and playspace.
Scott (415) 414-1132 In/Out
http://209.133.75.78/scott/index.html

BRUNO



COME TO DADDY
6'3", 225lbs, 17a, 48c, 25t
FF, WS, TT, CBT, BD
Verbal, Affectionate
(415) 596-6235
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MUSCULAR
SWIMMER
washboard abs
cut chest
big arms
friendly
respectful
educated
actual 8"
5'10, 160#
\$150/hr
excellent top
Jeff Ryan
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**** CHEAP SLUT ****
It is a high cost- for a slut to
get this slutty. SF/out only.
VGL clean Black 6' 172lb. 219 1074

VERY SEXY STUD
Passionate, creative, strong & gentle
very handsome, well hung, fulfill, all
your fantasies, very friendly 207-6117

WORKING-CLASS
Laid-back, masculine, handsome
drk Irish, muscular horny & hung
Jack 415 219-3725 24hrs.

STUPID REDNECK
W/ BIG TOOL
25yo 6' 165# muscular, hairy, tatt.
Handsome, aggressive friendly
415 998 8087 out only

ORDER IN COURT!
Do you remember when?
But I was just a boy then.
415 791 0087 pic @ lovings.com

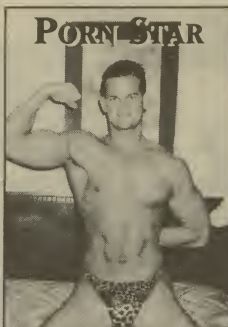
FUN FRIENDLY EXCITING
Very goodlooking! Exceptional,
5'8" 150lbs, gr8 eyes and hung big.
Erotic. Your complete satisfaction is
my pleasure. Masculine. Avail thru
3/15 only. Bob 619-368-8284

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WWW.MARK00XXX.COM
31yo, friendly, intelligent, &
affectionate. Good-looking, large
balls. Please see my website or call
415-401-9378. Thanks!

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Was out of town for the past 2 wks
JOSE 637-4270

In or Out eve & wknd 150wt 5'7" ht
24, 5'8", 140# PR & Spnsh.
9X6 HUNG LATIN
Hot & masc. w/slim build
hot butt & fully loaded
Marco 24 hrs. @ (415) 251-0010

PORN STAR



COLLIN J. \$160
415-540-1666

JOHNNY ANGEL

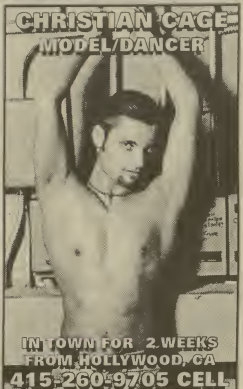


Blond, 5'11" cut, shaved
Out Only, PGR
415.219.5126



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MODEL/DANCER



IN TOWN FOR 2 WEEKS
FROM HOLLYWOOD, CA
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Masculine
Versatile
Most
Scenes
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LEATHER KINK
LONG, SENSUAL SESSIONS
WITH A TOP WHO ENJOYS
TAKING HIS TIME. TALL &
BUILT. FULL PLAYROOM.
RICK 431-0959



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28yo, 5'7", 125lbs, good looking,
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ed. Enrique 533-6620

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SPARK A FIRE WITH ME
Red-Hot n blond 6'1" 165# hzl eyes
Gr8 6-pack, killer build, gr8 fun!
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ARE YOU LOOKIN' FOR
A REAL MAN?
LOOK NO FURTHER!
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stud ready for action. 31yo,
military look & naturally sexy.
Hot attitude, well-built & hung
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Sexy, masculine, aggressive
White guy. Great butt, legs, big balls.
Beautiful tool. In/out call
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1 Black hard adidas model 219 2653

DIVINE BUTT
Asian tantrizer 4 ever 370-3307

Deep hard 24/7*346-4966*Ken*\$60

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don't reflect these classified descrip-
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100% GAUARANTEED,
REAL NO BULLSHIT
OR DON'T PAY.

Fun creative, adventuresome,
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9X5X7
cut, tan, fit, and toned body available.
Contact

http://www.male4malescorts.com/re-
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All Male
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min.

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WM, well bilt, 8", nds well bilt men
(20-37) w/firm butt to eat. 776-7472

Bear lookin' fer party bottoms ef yer
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FDA Approved vacuum pumps/surgical,
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STROKE**

"within your reach"

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Preview each guy before you
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Successful business executive seeks
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business companion. Must be straight
appearing with social graces in public
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extensive travel. No fats, no smoking,
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77001

SF Neg Top, 45, needs horny younger
bottom with hot mouth, smooth butt,
wide open hungry hole * 551-1520

E09

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

MARC ROSENBERG
Mr. Cell Block Leather 2001 chosen
last Sat., Feb. 17 in Chicago and
good luck at IML 2001.

E10

MR. SF LEATHER 2001
CONTEST @ Club Townsend on Fri-
day, March 9th. Tickets \$25 advance
or \$30 at door. On sale at Mister S,
Auto Erotica and Daddy's. Don't be
left out!

E10

EastBay Bear 510-436-4495

E09

EAST BAY

Bi guy, 6, 220, blond, blue, 40, at-
tractive, very clean and healthy is
seeking a few good sexual friendships
Loves to give head. Available even-
ings and weekends. Respond to email-
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E09

CONGRATULATIONS TO

ERIC BERNIER

Mr. Edge Leather 2001 and good
luck at the Mr. SF Leather 2001
contest March 9 @ Club Townsend

E10

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E19

Hung Dad 42 needs shy boy 18-28
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Bear lookin' fer party bottoms ef yer
hankerin' for toys or fist up yer butt
now call 752-0971

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E13

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☐ American Express
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Card Number _____
Expiration Date _____
Signature _____
Name _____

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name _____ Telephone _____
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City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Number of Issues _____ Classification _____ Amount Enclosed _____

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